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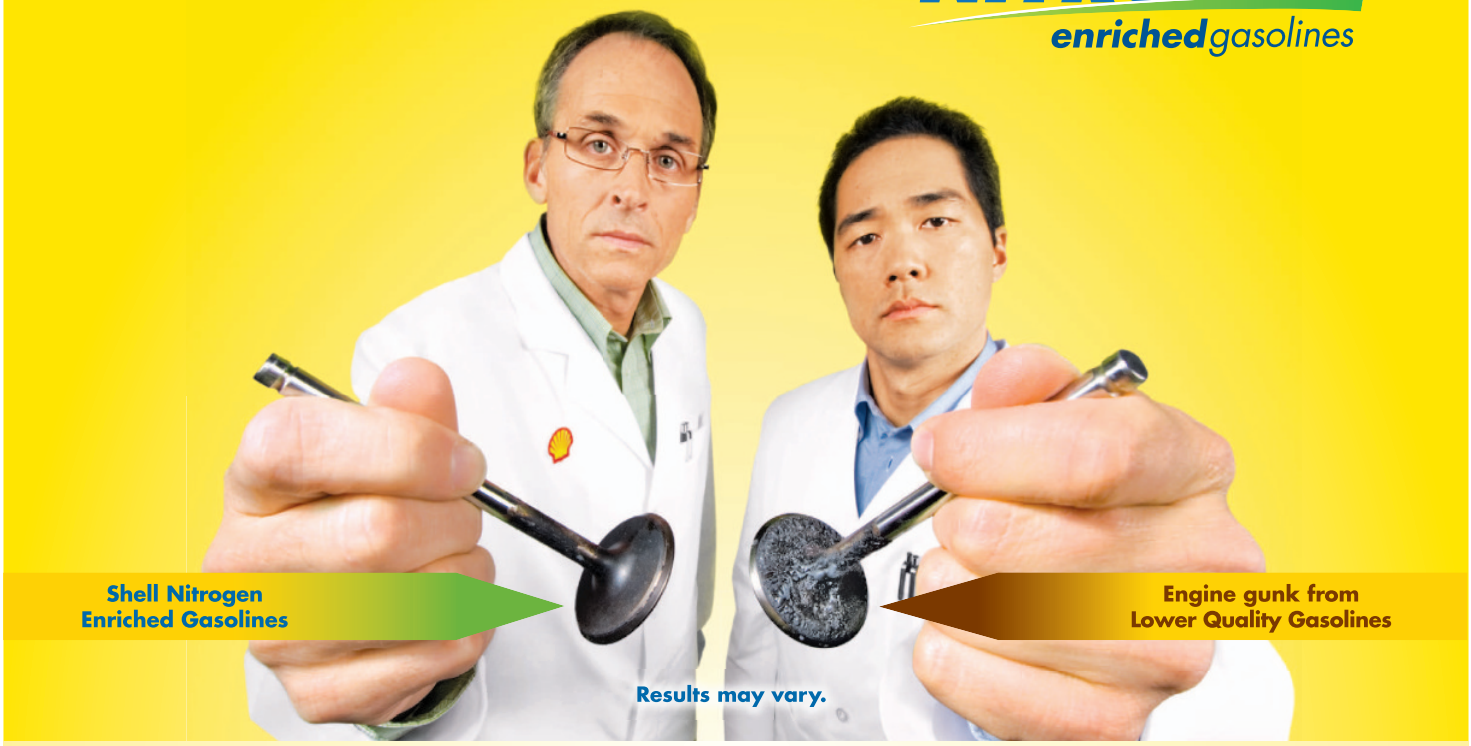

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Celebrity Buzz
Twilight of their love? pg30

Movies pg 29
Sass and glamour with the girls

Bus driver dies from injuries in April crash

SURREY A veteran driver with Coast Mountain Bus Company has died from the injuries she sustained when her bus crashed into Surrey's Newton Wave Pool.

It was initially thought the woman suffered a broken leg only after the April 11 crash.

Derek Zabel, spokesperson for Coast Mountain, said the family of the 20-year veteran driver is asking for privacy.

The cause of the crash has not yet been determined. **LAURA FORTEY/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER**

Movies pg 20

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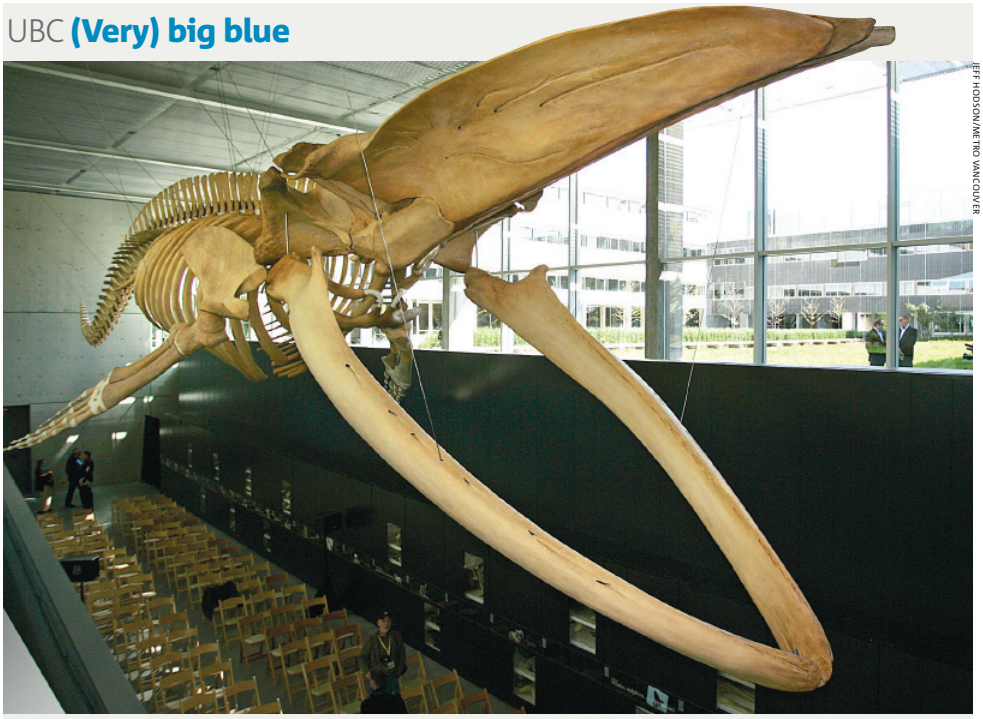

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A 25-metre blue whale skeleton is unveiled Thursday at the new Beaty Biodiversity Centre at the University of B.C. The skeleton is the largest in Canada and the fourth largest in the world. Coverage, page 2.

Saving snips for spill

Hair salons donating hair clippings to help soak up Gulf oil

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

A West Vancouver hair salon is sending hair clippings to the Gulf of Mexico where it's being used to help absorb oil from a major ocean spill.

A stylist from Hennessey Salon and Spa in Park Royal South received an email from Matter of Trust, an eco-friendly public charity, asking people to donate hair, fur or nylons.

"(Our stylist) told me about the hair booms that you can make. The hair soaks up the oil," said Krystal Harrison, a manager at Hennessey. "There's no point in throwing (clippings) away when we can be doing something positive with it."

With one garbage bag full from the last few days, the salon emailed Matter of Trust to confirm their involvement in the drive for hair clippings until May 31.

Harrison said all five of Hennessey's locations are now donating to the cause.

"We are encouraging anybody, any salon to jump onboard to go ahead with it to help the good cause," said Harrison.

"(People) are getting a service that they would normally be getting anyway, but they get to actually help with the relief effort ... it's sort of a double-edged sword."

Stylist Katie Webster with a bag full of hair on Thursday at Hennessey Salon and Spa. The hair will be used to make oil spill hair booms.

Are you sitting on a Facebook gold mine?

ONLINE Carole James may have lost the last provincial election but she's way ahead of Premier Gordon Campbell on Facebook.

According to the Social Page Evaluator, which was launched on Thursday by social media management company Vitrue, James' Facebook page is valued at $12,974, with a potential to be worth $31,136.

Gordon Campbell's page, however, is valued at $3,242, and could be worth $27,788.

Ratings
- Visit evaluator.vitrue.com to make your own comparisons.

The Social Page Evaluator determines the current monetary value and potential value of a brand's Facebook page based on, in part, the number of fans, as well as frequency, timing and content of the user's posts.

Short URLs also help.

The Vancouver Canucks are apparently doing everything right, with the team's Facebook page valued at a whopping $1.6 million, matching its potential.

The City of Vancouver's Facebook page is not far behind, with a value of just more than $20,000 and a potential of almost $22,000.

Lululemon's Facebook page is worth $1 million and has a potential to be $1.3 million.

David Suzuki's page is worth $258,000, but could be as much as $645,000.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

Local

Film shoot headed to Okanagan

Hollywood A-listers Owen Wilson, left, Jack Black and Steve Martin will be in the Okanagan later this spring to continue shooting their latest movie, The Big Year. The film, which has also shot in Tofino on Vancouver Island, is a story of three avid bird watchers who compete to spot the rarest bird in North America.

METRO VANCOUVER

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See the Local page to learn how to scan.

News in brief

GARBAGE Most Fraser Valley residents opposed the idea of burning garbage to produce electricity, according to an Angus Reid public opinion poll. In all, 59 per cent of respondents said they don't support the plans to use garbage as fuel as proposed by Metro Vancouver.

COLLISION A cyclist is in serious condition after he collided with a septic vacuum truck in Langley on Thursday morning. The 50-year-old Langley resident, who was wearing a helmet and reflective clothing, was airlifted to hospital with severe head and chest injuries.

DEATH A 52-year-old Fort Langley man has died a month after he was injured when his house was broken into. A 23-year-old man was charged with aggravated assault, break and enter and possession of stolen property, and may be facing murder charges as well.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

People examine a blue whale skeleton at the University of B.C. Thursday. One of the animal's flippers (bottom left) was removed almost 20 years ago by a souvenir hunter with a chainsaw.

Flipper lost, found

Whale limb was hacked off by souvenir hunter

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

As workers began exhuming the rotten remains of a blue whale from the red P.E.I. earth, a rumour began to circulate that one of the massive flippers was AWOL.

The whale's skeleton — the largest in Canada and fourth largest in the world — was unveiled Thursday in its entirety at the opening of the University of B.C.'s Beaty Biodiversity Centre.

"We thought it was just a nasty rumour," said Andrew Trites, who led the blue whale project. "Then we got to that piece and saw the chainsaw marks."

Two decades earlier, a souvenir hunter had dug into the earth and had hacked through the radius and ulna and removed the whale's left flipper.

The crew was stunned. The giant skeleton, which was planned as the centrepiece of UBC's new $50-million museum and research centre, was short one massive limb.

Trites said the team went "cold case," planting stories in local papers and trying to jog fading memories. Their efforts paid off. One day a man showed up at the dig site and nervously began pacing around the open pit.

The man claimed he had found the flipper after it had fallen off a truck. He had taken it home, kept one of the large bones above his fireplace and tossed the rest of the stinky mess into an overgrown woody area between two potato fields.

The man led Trites to the site and together the pair dug through the leaves and dirt with their bare hands and recovered the entire flipper.

"When we left ... he reached out to the one bone that he had kept for 20 years and he said, 'Goodbye bone. You're going to go on a big trip now. I hope I see you again one day.'"

Bone cleanup

- Mike deRoos, the man who articulated the large skeleton, said the rancid bones stunk like a "fish processing plant after all the refrigerators go out and it sits in the sun for a few days."
- To clean the bones, deRoos said, the team used vats of enzymes and bacteria as well as a hot vapour degreaser that was built for the U.S. Navy.

HST could cost owners of leaky condos $20M: MLA

TAX Owners of leaky condos who are forced to spend thousands of dollars in repairs will have to pay even more when the new HST is rolled out this summer.

PST rebates from B.C.'s homeowners' protection office will dry up July 1 with the implementation of the new tax.

New Democrat MLA Shane Simpson said based on numbers from a 2008 report there may be as many as 29,000 condos after 2012 that will need repairs.

The average PST relief grant per home in 2009 was $688.

Extrapolating on those figures, Simpson said it could mean leaky condo owners are out of pocket $20 million because of the loss of the PST rebate.

Simpson, the MLA for Vancouver-Hastings, pointed to a Burnaby high rise in the news recently that was looking at a $3.8-million repair bill. The loss of the PST rebate will cost each owner $1,200 to $1,500 more.

JEFF HODSON/
METRO VANCOUVER

Langley pro-life group seeks release of abortion statistics

PRIVACY A pro-life group is asking B.C.'s privacy commissioner to hold a public hearing to challenge provincial law that prohibits hospitals from releasing abortion statistics.

Langley's Campaign Life Coalition B.C. says statistics on how many abortions are performed at individual hospitals is in the public interest, CBC News reports.

Thursday was the final day for submissions to the commissioner. It is not known when a decision would be made.

The group has appealed to the office of B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner for a hearing so that they can challenge the provincial legislation.

A spokesman for the organization told media that abortion is a public policy issue and needs to be debated with specific numbers.

It has previously applied for abortion statistics from Vancouver General and Kelowna General, both of which refused.

Hospitals have opposed the hearing because they believe previous privacy commissions have already settled the issue.

METRO VANCOUVER

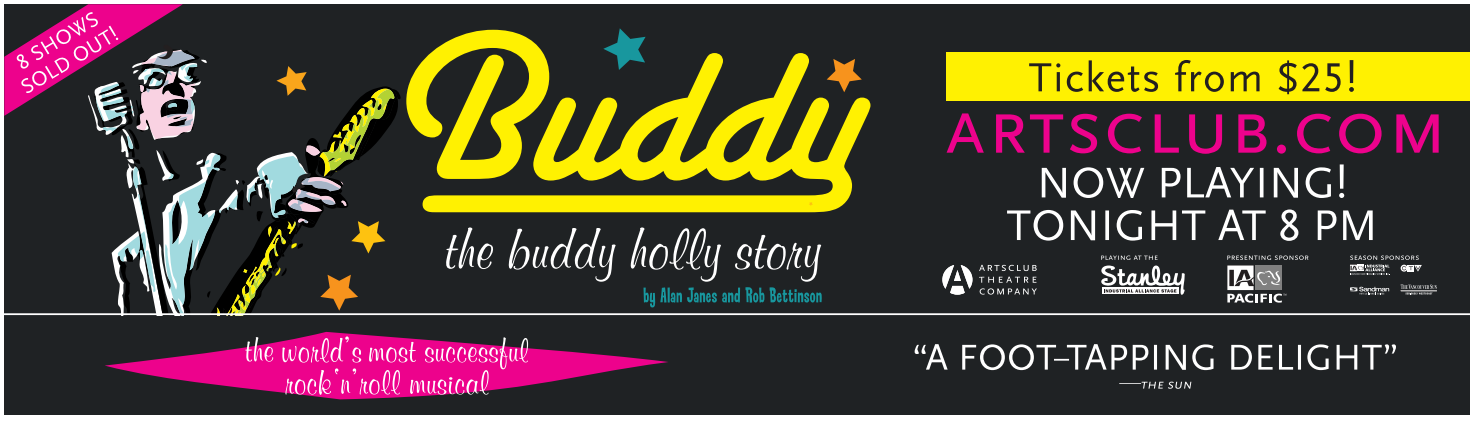
Campbell to run again despite HST furor

ELECTION Premier Gordon Campbell says he's sticking around to run in the next B.C. election despite taking a hit in the polls over the harmonized sales tax.

Campbell says he's got too much important work left to do, including on the economy, aboriginal issues and climate change.

While he admits his Liberals are taking a beating in the polls over the HST, he says the anger is more about the way the tax came in rather than the tax itself.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Lilith Fair fans asked for T-shirt designs

Organizers of the Lilith Fair music festival are asking people to design a T-shirt using the theme: the celebration of women in music. The contest at threadless.com/lobs/lilith closes Sunday. The winner receives an autographed guitar, tickets to the concert and their tee being sold at the event. METRO VANCOUVER

Green Granny loses her chance for appeal

COURTS Environmental activist Betty Krawczyk has lost her last chance to appeal her conviction and sentence for blocking expansion of the Sea To Sky Highway.

The Supreme Court of Canada has refused to hear the case brought by the nearly 82-year-old B.C. great-grandmother.

The court does not release its reasons.

Krawczyk was hoping to appeal both her criminal contempt conviction and 10-month sentence for standing in the way of logging crews in West Vancouver as they began work on the Sea to Sky expansion in 2006. She wanted Canada's highest court to consider what she believed was an abuse of process.

Her conviction for blocking the highway was the latest in a string of convictions and jail terms that began with her arrest for blockading logging trucks in Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island in the early 1990s.

Her activism has earned Krawczyk the nickname Green Granny.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Contest helps celebrate zoo's 40th anniversary

PRIZES The Greater Vancouver Zoo is celebrating a milestone anniversary with the launch of its 40th Wild & Wonderful Year contest, which kicks off Friday.

The contest runs until Oct. 31 and allows participants to enter to win a 2011 Toyota Camry hybrid, an Alaskan cruise and trips to Disney World, San Diego and Hawaii.

The zoo opened in 1970 when businessman Pat Hines bought 120 acres of land in Aldergrove as a game farm.

Its first animal was a llama named Dennis, which came from Mount Vernon in Washington state.

Today, the zoo has more than 600 animals of 135 species. METRO VANCOUVER

Activists turn to Facebook

Group wants to raise old-growth awareness with tree stump pictures

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

Some Vancouver Island environmentalists who say they discovered tree stumps as wide as a living room are turning to Facebook for help raising awareness of what's being lost through old-growth logging.

The members of Ancient Forest Alliance are asking others to also upload their photos to the group "Canada's Biggest Stumps."

"Most people are unaware that this is still going on," said Ken Wu, one of the organizers.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ANCIENT FOREST ALLIANCE

Environmentalist Ken Wu is dwarfed by the stump of an old-growth red cedar in the Gordon River Valley near Port Renfrew.

He was among the group who discovered the stumps on an expedition last month.

He called logging old-growth trees "incredibly sad" and claimed it happens with "regular occurrence."

"It's like shooting black rhinos ... there are so few of these monumental trees left."

On Vancouver Island, about 75 per cent of the old-growth forests have been logged, according to the group.

In the Lower Mainland, the Fraser Valley and Squamish River areas have scarce old-growth forests as well.

"Most jurisdictions on the planet would drool to have the type of forests that we have," said Wu.

"Its nuts to think that it's okay to cut the last remnants of it down."

Kids' lawyer derides cabinet access changes

LEGISLATION The B.C. government is trying to pass legislation that weakens the investigative powers of B.C.'s independent children's watchdog, says a lawyer.

"It is a rather extraordinary circumstance," Frank Falzon said. "I've never seen a situation quite like this. (It) might be a draconian step."

Children's representative Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond is suing the government for its plans to amend legislation involving her access to cabinet documents related to a government program involving thousands of children and youth who live with relatives.

The relative-in-the-home program touched off a political firestorm after a child was murdered shortly after being put in the home of a relative who had a criminal record for violence. Turpel-Lafond's lawsuit names Premier Gordon Campbell and Children's Minister Mary Polak.

Neither is expected to testify, nor is Turpel-Lafond. Polak called the lawsuit a waste of money.

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Councillor proposes pedestrian walk for city's 125th anniversary
Coun. Heather Deal is proposing a "Steam Line" walking route from the Roundhouse Community Centre in Yaletown to the steamclock in Gastown. The pilot pedestrian walk would be created in conjunction with the City of Vancouver's 125th birthday celebrations in 2011. METRO VANCOUVER

Shoemakers the sole of Vancouver

Museum exhibit looks back at iconic work of Fluevog, Fox, and friends

KRISTEN THOMPSTON
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Any woman who has tried to convince her better half that shoes are more than just function — they are art — will find vindication in the Vancouver Museum's newest exhibit.

Fox, Fluevog & Friends: The Story Behind The Shoes opens on Friday and offers a retrospective look at the iconic footwear of Vancouver's most famous cobblers — John Fluevog, Ken Rice and Peter Fox.

"I'm thrilled and humbled that my work is being fêted in Vancouver, the city where it all began," said Fluevog, who started designing shoes at his Gastown studio — which is still near The Old Spaghetti Factory — in 1970.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Shoe designer John Fluevog, left, talks to a reporter at the Vancouver Museum on Thursday ahead of the launch of a new exhibit, Fox, Fluevog & Friends. The silk pumps in the foreground were designed by Fluevog's former partner, Peter Fox.

The exhibit runs until Sept. 26.

The exhibit incorporates roughly 150 shoes as well as photographs, news clippings and sketchings.

"I love the bizarre and pedestrian collisions of history that brought (these three men) together in Gastown in the 1970s," said curator Joan Seidl.

"Fox and Fluevog took a chance on establishing in Gastown during the first Gastown renaissance, when its potential as a creative hub for entrepreneurs was first realized."

Fluevog's distinctly edgy and often eccentric brand has been worn by Madonna, who donned pink platforms in her 1991 video Truth Or Dare, as well as Iggy Pop, Jack White and Scarlett Johansson.

Peter Fox shoes have been used in Alice In Wonderland, Harry Potter and Titanic, where Kate Winslet wore Fox's Anya boot.

Group protests use of security cameras in school facilities

EDUCATION A Vancouver community group is asking the government to reconsider allowing schools to install surveillance cameras in classrooms, playgrounds and other public school facilities.

The Vancouver Public Space Network (VPSN) said video surveillance in schools should be used as a last resort only. The campaign is in response to a proposed bill that would allow school boards to "install and operate a video surveillance camera in a school or on school land for the purposes of protecting the safety of individuals, their belongings or school property."

Josh Paterson of VPSN said more stringent rules are required to prevent overuse or abuse of the equipment.

"Given the lack of evidence that surveillance cameras make us any safer ... (this) is not the best investment," said another VPSN member, Heather Forbes.

LAURA FORTEY/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Nostalgic for the Games? Olympic House to host grand public opening

GAMES The public can relive some of the Olympic magic Saturday during an open house at the Olympic Village with athletes, medals and pin trading.

It marks the first time that the $1-billion development is open to the public.

The festivities begin at 10 a.m. when VANOC CEO John Furlong will hand the buildings back to the City of Vancouver.

More than 35 Olympic athletes, including gold-medallist Ashleigh McIvor, will attend the grand opening. There will be autograph signings at the Salt Building and a display of the Olympic and Paralympic medals.

There will also be neighbourhood tours, live music, pin trading and a sledge hockey demonstration. The open house runs until 5 p.m.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

City chef to represent Canada at Bocuse D'or

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

FOOD Another Vancouver chef has been chosen to represent Canada at the prestigious biennial Bocuse D'or competition — the Olympics of culinary contests.

Ryan Stone, who studied at Vancouver Community College and is now executive chef at the West Coast Fishing Club on Haida Gwaii, represented Canada at the 2005 contest as apprentice to chef Morgan Wilson.

Gala appearance

- Ryan Stone met media for the first time on Thursday night at a fundraising gala at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Now he is leading the team representing Canada in France in 2011.

"I had that moment where I thought, what have I got myself into," he said. "I know the work that's involved and the commitment to the competition."

Stone said his team has already started working on the menu, which so far includes Scottish monkfish and Scottish saddle of lamb.

"The biggest lesson to learn is the scope of the competition, how big a show it is and how crazy it is," he said.

"If you walk in without knowing, it (is) a big shock. There are 5,000 people watching you ... French techno music blasting, disco balls, lights. It's like a rock show."

"We want to put Canada on the world stage," the chef added.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ryan Stone

Bacon brother guilty of 10 weapons charges, drug possession

CRIME One of a trio of brothers linked to Vancouver's bloody drug trade was convicted Thursday of weapons charges, marking the first substantial guilty verdict against any of the siblings since the nation's attention turned toward the region's escalating gang violence several years ago.

The conviction of James (Jamie) Bacon — paired with an acquittal for his brother Jarrod — represents a small but incremental victory against the drug running, shootings and assassinations that have plagued the Lower Mainland over the past few years.

James was found guilty of 10 gun-related charges and one charge of possessing oxycodone, charges prompted after rivals attempted an "execution" of him three years ago. His brother Jarrod was acquitted of the same weapons charges.

Murder charge

- James Bacon — also known as Jamie — is also charged with one count of first-degree murder in the deaths of six people, including two innocent bystanders, in a suburban Surrey apartment.

Court heard Bacon returned fire and the gun he used ended up in a sophisticated secret compartment in an SUV parked in the family's garage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

STOLEN TRUCK A fire truck that was stolen from a fire hall in the B.C. Interior has been found stripped of much of its equipment. The vehicle was taken from the East Gate fire hall on the weekend. A Langley paramedic used his private helicopter to search for the truck, which he found in a gravel pit near Manning Park.

THEFT Ridge Meadows RCMP have arrested eight people in connection with the theft of a semi truck and trailer in Hope on April 29. The truck had roughly $1 million worth of merchandise inside. The vehicle was found empty on a rural property. Most of its contents were tracked down by police.

READING B.C.'s public and school libraries are making many books available on the Internet for the coming year to see if consumers are interested in reading online, CBC News Online reports. The books are all works of non-fiction published by B.C. publishers.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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School chiefs put question mark over 'bullied boy' case

Was a five-year-old disabled boy bullied on a school bus? His father says yes. But the Prairie South School Division in Saskatchewan says it has "a number of facts that differ greatly from the account provided publicly." It says it can't say more for privacy reasons. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Boxer's charges dropped

Assault and mischief charges have been dropped against former Olympic boxing silver medallist Shawn O'Sullivan, 47, pictured showing injuries he says he received after being assaulted by police. O'Sullivan complained he was Tasered and arrested by police in Belleville, Ont., who countered he was drunk and combative. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Store boss charged in death

CRIME A corner-store owner has been charged with killing a shoplifter over what the victim's friend said was a can of luncheon meat.

Kwang Soo Kim, 62, has been charged with manslaughter in the death of Geraldine Beardy, 29, in Winnipeg. Beardy was hit with a weapon, police said. She made her way to a friend's house and died five days later in hospital.

"He was hoping he wasn't going to be charged," said Kim's lawyer, Evan Roitenberg. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

FALLEN News reports say another Canadian soldier has been killed by an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan. Private Kevin McKay, of the Edmonton-based Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, reportedly died in an IED blast near the town of Nakhonay, near Kandahar. The reports did not list his hometown. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Abortion furor on PM's doorstep

Students, priests, nuns join giant Parliament Hill rally

Thousands of pro-life campaigners flooded Parliament Hill Thursday, daring to hope that Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government will take further steps against abortion at home as well as abroad.

The throng included hundreds of students drawn from Ottawa's Roman Catholic high schools.

Many waved graphic signs with pictures of aborted fetuses.

"There is absolutely no protection for the unborn." Marc Cardinal Ouellet

Priests, ministers, nuns and monks were scattered through the crowd, which was estimated at about 15,000 people.

The theme of this year's March for Life was: Abortion is a crime against humanity.

But politics was also at the fore as the abortion debate arrived literally on Harper's doorstep.

He sparked an outcry when he said money earmarked for child and maternal health programs in the Third World won't go to abortions.

That won praise from Marc Cardinal Ouellet, archbishop of Quebec and primate of Canada.

"We support this stance of the government not to finance abortion in countries of the Third World," he said.

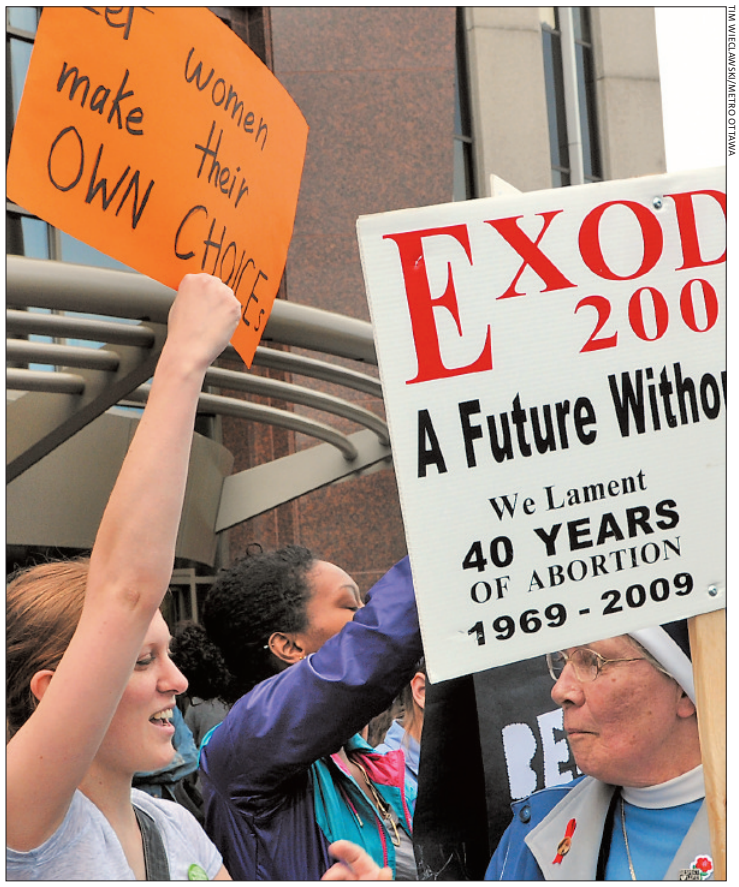
The Quebec prelate also told reporters: "Reopen the discussion in Canada about this judicial void. There is absolutely no protection for the unborn."

Angelina Steenstra of a group called Silent No More echoed Ouellet's statement:

"I am pleased to see the prime minister of Canada using the resources of Canada to promote women's health by offering real concrete things to women to bring about life and to support life and to encourage life."

Twenty-one members of Parliament, 18 of them Conservatives, addressed the crowd.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



TIM WEECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Thousands of anti-abortion activists march through Ottawa Thursday for the March for Life.

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Guergis asks: Was it all just a misunderstanding?

SCANDAL Helena Guergis says a misunderstanding must be the reason why Prime Minister Stephen Harper kicked her out of the Conservative caucus.

But she conceded Thursday her husband, Rahim Jaffer, might well have used her parliamentary email address for business purposes.

Guergis underlined private eye Derrick Snowdy's comments that he didn't have any evidence of criminal behaviour on her part.

"There obviously has been some misunderstanding," she said.

Snowdy told MPs at a Commons committee Wednesday that when he went to the Conservatives, he was only worried about the optics of Guergis and Jaffer associating with a Toronto businessman facing fraud charges.

He also testified that on the same day Harper announced Guergis' removal from caucus, he argued with senior Conservatives over their interpretation of the information he had brought to them. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RCMP investigating Newfoundland hospital

A hospital in Gander, N.L. is being investigated by the RCMP over the care of a newborn at the facility. Police say the health authority called them after an incident Tuesday, but declined to give details, citing privacy issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

New way to your get hockey fix

SOCIAL MEDIA Tens of thousands of hockey fans in Montreal packed the Bell Centre and filled sports bars to overcapacity Wednesday night to watch the Canadiens finish off the Pittsburgh Penguins.

But for those who couldn't get in, there were other places to talk hockey and watch the game with a lively crowd, where the beer wasn't overpriced and sightlines were perfect.

At HFBoards.com, one of the most popular hockey websites, between 55,000 and 65,000 fans log on every day, operators say. Wednesday night's game between Montreal and Pittsburgh generated more than 5,100 posts which were viewed around 103,000 times.

The concept of going online to chat about hockey isn't new, but its popularity as an alternative to hitting a sports bar to watch a game with others is exploding.

"It almost acts like a support group, if a team's doing well everybody's feeling great but, if things aren't going well — like Pittsburgh Penguins fans are feeling today, I guess — they console one another, or complain, or figure out what needs to be done to make a team better," said Ken McKenna, managing editor of Hockey's Future, the sister site of HF-Boards.com.

McKenna said online chatter during games really started to take off when wireless Internet became common in homes and users started sitting in front of their TVs with a laptop. Smartphones have made it even easier to talk about games online anywhere you are, he added.

There were an estimated 130,000 streams of Wednesday's game off CBC.ca and about 6,000 to 20,000 users typically logged into live chats during games this season, said Scott Moore, executive director of CBC Sports. "We like to think of CBC.ca as being the town hall of Canada," Moore said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

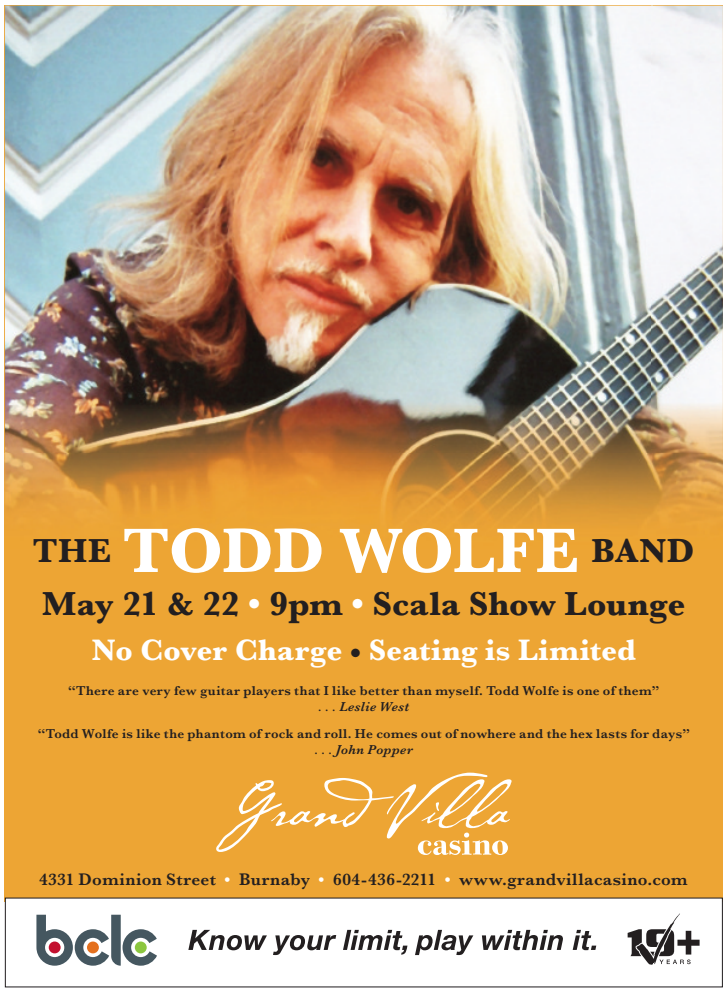
Over on Twitter...

Canada's most tweeted-about topics early Thursday revolved around the Montreal Canadiens and the team's awe-inspiring victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins. Among the hottests keywords were Habs, MTL, Stanley Cup and Jaroslav Halak, Montreal's goalie.

News in brief

NOVA SCOTIA The federal and Nova Scotia governments have extended a moratorium on oil and gas exploration on Georges Bank for three years. Premier Darrell Dexter announced Thursday that the ban on drilling is being extended until Dec. 31, 2015. Dexter said he heard the public's concerns over the possibility of lifting the moratorium on an area known for the rich variety of marine species that feed and spawn there. Both levels of government agreed to gather information on the Georges Bank ecosystem, particularly about fishing and petroleum activities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CANADA

Officials capture a one-year-old moose that went on a surprise excursion through downtown Calgary yesterday, snarling traffic and getting the attention of onlookers.

Moose on the loose

Unexpected visitor turns heads in downtown Calgary

KRISTA SYLVESTER
Metro Canada

This loose moose was no comedy act.

A one-year-old moose captured the attention of Calgarians and snarled traffic in the process, as the young calf led officials on a two-hour wild moose chase throughout Calgary and across two city quadrants.

Eventually the moose was tranquilized by Fish and Wildlife officers after dashing down 9th Avenue SW against traffic, according to officer Ken Mackay.

"It's a safety issue for traffic and citizens, so we tranquilized it and we'll be taking it west," he said, adding the animal would be tagged and released.

There were reports the moose started in the northwest but led officials down Memorial Drive near the zoo and then crossed Bow River onto an island before wading through more water to explore downtown.

"It's never a good thing to have a moose loose downtown. Not a good place to be," Mackay said.

Duty Insp. Darren Cave said the moose created a lot of chaos for motorists.

"He was kind of like a tourist, he's seen a lot of the city today," Cave said.

Witnesses, many of whom had never seen a moose downtown before, were awestruck when crossing paths with the large animal.

"It just kind of looked a bit frazzled but it's not something you see everyday," Joe Weinstein said.

Saskatchewan tries to balance marriage, religious rights

RIGHTS Saskatchewan's highest court has been told that making marriage commissioners perform same-sex ceremonies against their religious beliefs forces them to "park their rights at the door."

The Court of Appeal is hearing submissions on a proposed law that would exempt commissioners from presiding over gay weddings on religious grounds. The provincial government has asked the court for its opinion on whether the proposal meets the requirements of the Charter of Rights.

"The issue of same-sex marriage is not on the agenda to be discussed. That issue has been settled. There is a right to same-sex marriage," said lawyer Michael Megaw, who was appointed by the province to argue in favour of the legislation. "The only issue is whether there ought to be a balancing of rights."

Megaw told the five-judge panel Thursday that the government is obligated to provide civil marriages, so same-sex couples will get their marriage without any doubt.

> **"The only issue is whether there ought to be a balancing of rights."**
> Michael Megaw, provincial lawyer

But commissioners, who also are entitled to their religious beliefs and their freedom of religion, have a "hammer hanging over their head to either to do it" or be fired, he argued.

The issue arose in 2005 when commissioner Orville Nichols, a devout Baptist, told a gay couple he wouldn't marry them because it went against his religious beliefs. The case went before the Saskatchewan Human Rights Tribunal, which ruled in May 2008 that Nichols discriminated against the couple.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Think-tank chides governments for 'Pinocchio effect'

ECONOMY A new study suggest that all the plaudits Canadian governments are receiving internationally for their fiscal prudence may not be totally deserved.

The C.D. Howe Institute says federal and provincial governments in Canada have spent $65 billion more than they had budgeted for over the past decade.

The overspending has had the effect of worsening the fiscal binds they face now in the wake of the recession.

The think-tank calls this the Pinocchio effect and by its analysis, Conservative-run Alberta's nose has grown the most in the last 10 years. Quebec and New Brunswick have come closest to keeping within their stated budget limits, the think-tank says.

The federal government ranks eighth among the 13 jurisdictions for accuracy with a spending overrun of $21.7 billion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Reality TV contestant pleads guilty, sentenced to nine years

A crab boat deckhand who appeared on the Deadliest Catch reality show has pleaded guilty to three Oregon bank robbery charges and sentenced to nine years in prison. The shackled Joshua Tell Warner, 23, apologized to tellers who attended the hearing Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Teen sailor approaches finish line

After seven months at sea, an Australian teen on Thursday was just two days away from reaching the finish line in her bid to become the youngest person to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around the world. Thousands are expected to line Sydney Harbour Saturday to offer a hero's welcome to Jessica Watson, 16, who has battled 12-metre waves, multiple knockdowns and critics who called her too immature and inexperienced for the treacherous journey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope calls abortion, gay marriage 'insidious'

PORTUGAL Pope Benedict XVI has called abortion and same-sex marriage two of the most "insidious and dangerous" threats facing the world today.

Benedict made the comments Thursday to Catholic educators, social workers and others after celebrating Mass before an estimated 400,000 people in Fatima, one of the most important shrines in Christianity. He was interrupted by applause several times.

Benedict's visit to Fatima was the spiritual centrepiece of his four-day visit to Portugal. It was cast by Vatican officials as evidence that Benedict had turned a page in weathering the clerical sex abuse scandal that has dogged him for months.

Hundreds of thousands of people turned out for an outdoor Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI Thursday at Fatima, the Catholic shrine that pilgrims visit in search of cures for their ailments.

The Mass marked the anniversary of the day 93 years ago when three local shepherd children reported having visions of the Virgin in this small farming town.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With Gordon Brown gone, a potentially bitter battle to replace him becomes a family affair

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Thai rebel leader shot in head

Violence explodes in Bangkok as protests reach most tense level yet

A rogue army general working with anti-government protesters was shot in the head Thursday while talking to reporters in downtown Bangkok, triggering more clashes that left one demonstrator dead and worsening Thailand's political chaos.

Gunfire crackled well into in the night after the government declared it will blockade 10,000 Red Shirt demonstrators who have occupied and paralyzed the centre of the capital for two months.

The streets turned into a virtual war zone following the shooting of Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawasdiphol. Protesters stopped police trucks and forced them to turn back; they hurled rocks at soldiers, who responded by firing live ammunition, said Associated Press cameraman Raul Gallego. Killed in the shooting was Chartchai Bualao, 25, who was hit in the eye, according to the government's medical emergency centre. Soldiers resumed firing after an ambulance took his body away. At least seven other people were injured.

Khattiya was shot in the head while talking to a New York Times journalist near the Silom subway station on the edge of the occupation zone. The station entrance is surrounded by tall office buildings, leading to suspicions a sniper fired the shot.

Times reporter Thomas Fuller, answering questions on the newspaper's website, said he was about a half-hour into the interview when he asked the general, "Do you think the military is going to launch a crackdown, and do you think they'll be able to penetrate the barricades here?"

"And there was a bang as he was answering it, and I think his last words that I heard were, 'The military cannot get in here.' And then immediately (he) just fell," Fuller said.

Moments later, others dragged Khattiya by the legs, his head sliding on the ground and leaving a trail of blood. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Condition

- A hospital said Maj. Khattiya Sawasdiphol was shot in the head and admitted to a hospital's intensive care unit.

News in brief

INDIANA A 32-year-old man who prosecutors say videotaped himself and his girlfriend molesting children as young as two months was sentenced Thursday to 125 years in prison. Stephen Quick II was convicted in March of three counts of child molesting. He received the same sentence that his girlfriend, 26-year-old Samantha Light, was given in December.

ARRESTS U.S. Justice Department spokesman Dean Boyd says three people are in federal custody after search warrants were issued in multiple locations in the American northeast in connection with the Times Square bomb investigation. Boyd says the three people are being held on alleged immigration violations. He said the activity does not relate to any known active plot against the United States. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Buffalo **Obama drops in**

CHARLES LEWIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alexander Whitbeck, 7, left, and his father Scott stand along a street in Buffalo, N.Y., Thursday, where U.S. President Barack Obama stopped by. The president made a surprise stop to dine on the local delicacy at Duff's Famous Wings.

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Chinese mine blast toll rises to 21
State media says the death toll in a coal mine blast in southwest China's Guizhou province has risen to 21. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blight hits poppy crop

Afghanistan's opium yield is likely to drop as much as 30 per cent this year because blight is destroying fields full of poppies in the south — driving up prices amid a countrywide push to grow legal crops, a UN official said Thursday.

Higher prices also could mean more money pouring in to the Taliban, which funds much of its insurgency with profits from the drug.

Afghanistan supplies 90 per cent of the world's opium, the main ingredient in heroin.

The blight, which turns the poppy plants black as they apparently rot from the inside, has hit about half of the poppy crop growing in the northern part of Helmand province — the centre of Afghanistan's poppy production, said Jean-Luc Lemahieu, the top official for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Afghanistan.

It is also significantly affecting crops in southern Helmand and in neighbouring Kandahar province, he said.

The lower yield on the surface seems to be a boost to reducing opium poppy cultivation, but it is leading to wild price speculation that instead could encourage farmers to plant more poppy next year.

A spokesman for the Afghan Counter Narcotics Ministry said that higher prices mean interdiction efforts will get more difficult.

Zalmai Afzali said a team for the ministry working on poppy eradication was just attacked in eastern Nangarhar province a few weeks ago and more funds for the insurgents will likely mean more attacks.

The Afghan government has made progress in recent years in getting provinces declared "poppy-free" and by offering incentives to switch to legal crops.

However, the poppy crop in Helmand and Kandahar has proved stubbornly resilient despite falling prices and stepped-up interdiction efforts.

It is still unclear what is causing the blight, including whether it is a disease or a small insect.

UN workers have collected samples since it started showing up a month ago and sent them to labs in India for analysis.

Though there has been speculation that a poppy-killing blight could have been introduced in secret by NATO forces, Lemahieu said this was unlikely.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prices going up

- The price of fresh opium has jumped 57 per cent from last year to about $85 a kilogram in April, while dry opium prices are up 37 per cent, according to UN data.
- Prices spiked similarly in 2001 to 2003, peaking at just over $300 a kilogram and sparking a surge in opium poppy cultivation over the next few years.

London **Protesting? In-deed!**

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Environmentalists bought the legal deeds to the area around London's Heathrow Airport in order to block the construction of the proposed third runway. Here, they pose with boxes containing the deeds of the area outside No. 10 Downing Street, British Prime Minister David Cameron's official residence in central London on Thursday. The new coalition government of the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats is against the project and plans to scrap it.

Obama under fire in New York

FUNDING U.S. President Barack Obama is in hot water in New York City, the iconic American metropolis still traumatized by the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and jittery following a car-bombing attempt in Times Square two weeks ago.

New York lawmakers say the Department of Homeland Security is planning to cut anti-terror funding to public transit and ports in the city by 27 per cent.

"Cutting Big Apple homeland security funding to the core is mind-bogglingly bad judgment," said New York Congressman Anthony Weiner.

But the White House denied the administration had cut funds to New York, saying that overall anti-terror funding to the city is 14 per cent higher than it was under George W. Bush.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

APOLOGY New Zealand's prime minister apologized Thursday for joking that he would have been part of the meal had he attended a dinner with a Maori tribe whose history includes cannibalism. He said it was a "lighthearted joke", but a Maori chief said it was "in poor taste". THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tasty treats on streets

UrbanCompass

It's lunchtime on a nice sunny day and you're walking down Granville Street.

Life is good, except you're hungry. You think about grabbing something from a street vendor, and you look around.

There's a hotdog vendor featuring Polish smokies.

And another one offering veggie dogs.

Yet another sells buffalo dogs.

And then there's Japadog, featuring seaweed and wasabi.

Clearly, the choices are infinite as long as you want a hotdog.

But there's more to life than tube steak. Isn't there?

Mysteriously, Vancouver's several dozen street vendors are limited to selling hotdogs for "health" reasons. Anyone who knows what goes into the basic ingredient of the hotdog knows hotdogs and health are mutually contradictory.

"You think this is simple, getting donairs to the people? Think again."

City hall has apparently been worried that if variety is allowed on pushcarts, vendors will start selling guinea pig on a stick, common street fare in Peru. And if you think hotdogs are bad, what do you make of "carne," that unspecified protein found on the streets of Mexico?

Still, now that the post-Olympic glow has made street life OK in Fun City, Gregor the Good, mayor of Vancouver and purveyor of Happy Planet organic juice, has taken up the challenge to offer more variety on the street. He has a city hall bureaucrat working on it full speed, around the clock.

You think this is simple, getting donairs to the people? Think again. We have to consider the restaurant owners, who hate the idea of these mobile interlopers who don't have to pay taxes. We have to think of a fair way to distribute prime locations — the current lottery system is gamed by wily vendors who get their relatives to sign up. We have to worry about more and varied trash. We have to employ and train more health inspectors, not to mention dining columnists.

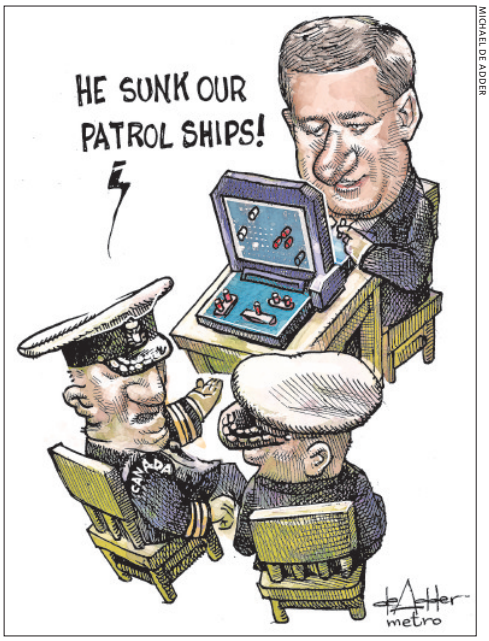
You should be able to buy a street taco or a kebob by, oh, 2015.

Fortunately, Portland exists for precisely this reason. Whenever we don't know what to do, we go to Portland and find out what it is up to. And as in all comparisons between Portland and Vancouver, Portland is better. We have somewhere around 40 hotdog carts; Portland has 450. We have hotdogs; Portland has Bosnian cuisine, whatever that is.

If Portland can do Bosnian, the thinking goes, so can we. It's like Vancouver, only with Nike instead of Electronic Arts.

Let's get on with it! There's only one real question still outstanding: Does that come with fries?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Noteworthy

Early birds may have had to walk for worms: Study

The early bird — didn't fly very well.

Recent fossil discoveries that showed feathers on some of the early flying animals, like the well-known Archaeopteryx, created a bit of a flap in the archaeological world.

And now comes a report that those feathers may have been too weak for use in flapping flight — helpful only for gliding.

Robert L. Nudds and Gareth J. Dyke report in Friday's edition of the journal Science that the central shaft of feathers on Archaeopteryx and Confuciusornis were much more slender than on feathers of similar-sized birds today.

Archaeopteryx flourished about 145 million years ago and Confuciusornis came along later, about 120 million years ago.

Unfortunately, researchers cannot tell from the fossils if the feather shafts were hollow, like modern birds, or were solid.

If their feathers were hollow the thin shafts would have buckled like a drinking straw if the animals had tried vigorous flapping, according to Nudds, of England's University of Manchester, and Dyke, of University College, Dublin, Ireland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Worth mentioning

U.S. backs Obama's spill response: Poll

The Gulf of Mexico oil spill hasn't stained U.S. President Barack Obama nor dimmed the public's desire for offshore energy drilling, according to a new Associated Press-GfK Poll.

While some conservative pundits have called this "Obama's Katrina," that's not how the public feels, the poll found. BP PLC, which owned the well that has gushed more than 15 million litres and counting after an April 20 oil rig explosion, is getting more of the public's ire.

More people surveyed said they approved of Obama's handling of the ongoing oil spill than disapproved, but not by large margins or with unusually strong feelings. It contrasts with the public's reaction to former president George W. Bush's response to another Gulf disaster, 2005's hurricane Katrina.

The poll found 42 per cent approve of Obama's actions, 33 per cent disapprove and 21 per cent say they have neutral feelings about his response.

The reaction is strongly along partisan lines. Democrats lean toward favouring Obama's actions, 58 per cent to 19 per cent, with 17 per cent expressing neither approval nor disapproval. By 47 per cent to 27 per cent, Republicans disapprove of Obama's reaction, with 23 per cent saying neither. Independents are about evenly split between approval and disapproval.

For Bush after Katrina, the public was harsher in its assessment. An AP-Ipsos poll in mid-September 2005 showed Bush's approval rating was somewhat lower in the weeks following the Katrina disaster than Obama's rating for handling the current crisis. Back then, 35 per cent approved of Bush's handling of the disaster and 42 per cent disapproved, with 25 per cent not expressing either approval nor disapproval. The poll also found the public still supports the idea of drilling offshore for oil and gas. By 50 per cent to 38 per cent, more people favour increased coastal drilling for oil and gas than oppose it.

Barack Obama

While Republicans favour it by a 3-to-1 margin, Democrats lean toward opposing it, 52 per cent to 36 per cent. Independents are about evenly split. Groups giving drilling the strongest support include men, middle-aged and older people, whites and residents of rural and suburban areas.

The country is split about evenly over which priority is more important in considering drilling, with 49 per cent choosing the need for the U.S. to provide its own energy and 47 per cent picking protection of the environment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote of the Day

"I've been following this issue for years and we think there should be a law that precludes (governments) from overspending their budget ... except for a national disaster or war."

— KEVIN GAUDET, THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE CANADIAN TAXPAYERS FEDERATION, AFTER A NEW STUDY BY THE C.D. HOWE INSTITUTE SHOWS CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS OVERSPENT THEIR BUDGETS BY A MASSIVE $65 BILLION OVER THE LAST DECADE, A TRANSGRESSION THAT HAS COME BACK TO HAUNT THEM IN THIS NEW ERA OF HIGH DEFICITS. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Sweet profits for Tim Hortons
Tim Hortons Inc. has served up a fatter profit for its investors and says it will roll out a new distribution centre in eastern Ontario by next year.
The company says it had $78.9 million in profit in the first three months of this year — up 18.7 per cent from last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
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US .07¢	US 5.5¢	US $1.25	79.38

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

RIM may be working on tablet

TECH Research In Motion is reportedly working on a tablet device to compete with Apple's iPad.

A tablet device would be a major departure for the Waterloo-based company, which thus far has made only handheld devices such as its BlackBerry line of smartphones.

But RIM can't afford to ignore the popularity of the iPad and the fact other competitors are expected to bring out their own tablet devices, said Ashok Kumar, a technology analyst who has commented on the company's efforts to come out with a tablet.

"RIM can't afford not to participate in that segment," he said in an interview.

A RIM spokesperson declined to comment on the tablet rumours, but Kumar said he is basing his evidence on discussions with RIM suppliers such as Quanta, a hardware manufacturer in Taiwan, and Marvell Technology Group, a California-based maker of silicon solutions.

Speculation RIM is working on a tablet have also been circulating on technology blogs.

"When you talk to the supply chain on a regular basis you get some previews in terms of what's coming down from other ecosystem players," said Kumar, an analyst with Rodman & Renshaw, a New-York based investment bank.

Quanta has been hired to build the device and Marvell will make the processor, he said.

RIM had hoped to release the tablet later this year, but after seeing what's in the iPad, it has gone back to the drawing board and will likely delay the release until early next year, Kumar predicted.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

India Microsoft Office 2010

MUSTAFA QURAISHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Microsoft India executives Sanjay Manchanda, right, Tarun Gulati, left, and chairman of Microsoft India Ravi Venkatesan look on during the launch of Microsoft Office 2010 yesterday in New Delhi, India. Microsoft India announced the availability of Office 2010, SharePoint 2010, Visio 2010 and Project 2010 for business customers in India and across the world.

Traditional media needs to change: New Canwest rep

MEDIA Financial firms are investing in traditional media companies because the price is right and there's potential for profitable growth on the digital side, says the man who is helping bring Canada's largest chain of daily newspapers out of bankruptcy protection.

"Newspaper companies are cheap. Didn't the Canwest papers just sell for about a third of what Conrad Black got paid for them?" said John Paton, who will sit on the board of the new Canwest. But newspapers need to both cut costs and boost their digital revenue, Paton told the Canadian Newspaper Association Thursday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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LimeWire loses court battle

LEGAL File-sharing software company LimeWire has lost a long-running court battle to the major recording companies.

A judge with the U.S. District Court in New York ruled this week that the company and its chairman, Mark Gorton, were liable for inducing copyright infringement.

The decision in the case, which began in 2006, doesn't mean the site will shut down right away. The record labels and LimeWire are to meet with Judge Kimba Wood on June 1 to determine the next steps.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New rules for telecoms

Foreign ownership no threat, says Clement

The Harper government is committed to preserving Canadian content on television and radio while allowing for a greater foreign presence in the telecommunications sector, Industry Minister Tony Clement says.

The minister told a House committee yesterday it is possible to separate the two.

"There's no question there's been convergence in the industry between those who are providing telecommunications and the broadcasting, but in our view it is possible to deal with those separately."

Ottawa signalled in the throne speech in March that it wants to increase competition in the telecommunications sector, such as wireless services, by opening it to more foreign investment.

Tony Clement

Federal law currently requires both telecom providers of cable, satellite and wireless services, and broadcasters like CTV and Global currently to be owned and managed by Canadians, although the rules allow for a majority foreign, non-voting stake.

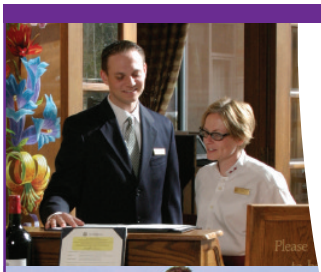
The government has suggested it wants to change the foreign ownership limits in the former but not the latter.

Some critics have said that since companies like Rogers Communications provide both content and distribution of content, the two functions cannot have separate rules.

Those have included CRTC chairman Konrad von Finckenstein, who has argued the two industries are now joined at the hip.

But Clement says good policy can separate the two, although he offered no hints as to how this could be accomplished.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Parker won't play for France

Tony Parker won't play at the world championship for France this summer, staying instead with his San Antonio Spurs. The point guard said Thursday on his website that the Spurs made it clear he should "only focus on the club." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Royals flush manager

Trey Hillman, left, became the first manager to get fired this season when the Kansas City Royals let him go Thursday after a final win. Former Milwaukee manager Ned Yost, who had joined the Royals' front office in January, immediately took over the team. The Royals made the move after beating Cleveland 6-4, a win that left Kansas City at 12-23 and last in the AL Central. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

GOLF Matt Jones eagled the par-5 14th hole and finished with a 6-under 66 to take a one-stroke lead Thursday after the first round of the Texas Open. Jones also had four birdies on the back nine on the Greg Norman-designed Oaks Course at TPC San Antonio, the tournament's new site after 15 years at La Cantera.

SMUGGLING The man who skipped Canada's wheelchair curling team to a gold medal in the 2010 Olympics has pleaded not guilty in a Seattle court to smuggling charges. Jim Armstrong is accused of trying to smuggle thousands of counterfeit Viagra and Cialis tablet pills into Canada.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Canuck Ryan Kesler prepares to leave the team's dressing room after speaking to the media in Vancouver on Thursday. The Canucks were eliminated by the Chicago Blackhawks in the second round of the NHL playoffs.

Kesler takes ownership of series loss

His words were barely audible, but the pain and disappointment etched across Ryan Kesler's face spoke loudly.

Many of Kesler's Vancouver Canuck teammates spent Thursday offering explanations and theories on why their team was knocked out of the NHL Western Conference semifinal by the Chicago Blackhawks. Kesler didn't make excuses. He took ownership of what happened.

"I've been having a lot of sleepless nights," sighed the gritty centre. "I wasn't there for my team when they needed it.

"I'd like to think I've become a big part of this team. When I'm not playing on top of my game, it's going to hurt the team's success."

> **"I'd like to think I've become a big part of this team. When I'm not playing on top of my game, it's going to hurt the team's success."** Ryan Kesler

While Kesler may have been alone in his honesty, what he said applied to many of the Canucks.

A team that won its division by collecting 103 points during the regular season, and set a franchise record with 30 wins at home, lost in the second round of the playoffs for the third time in four years. After beating the Los Angeles Kings in the first round, Vancouver was eliminated by the Hawks for the second consecutive season.

Kesler played against Chicago with a sore shoulder, but maintained it was self-inflicted wounds that killed Vancouver's hope of winning the franchise's first ever Stanley Cup.

"They didn't beat us," said the Selke Trophy finalist. "We beat ourselves.

"You have to give them credit. They capitalized on our mistakes in Games 3 and 4 and that was basically the turning point of the series. We have to learn from that. We have to learn once you have a game plan you have to stick to it. We always have to put the team ahead of ourselves."

Forward Alex Burrows led Vancouver with 35 goals during the regular season. He managed just three in the playoffs, and two of those went into an empty net.

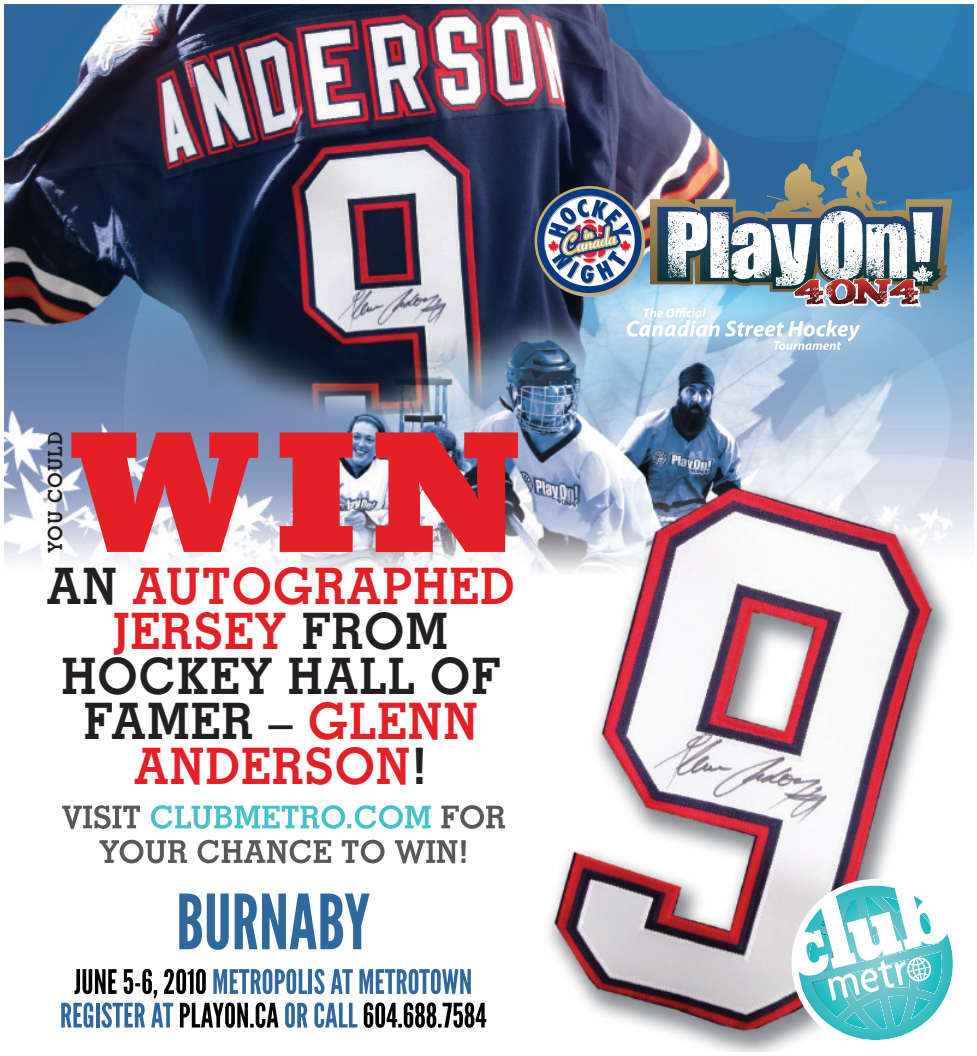
Burrows wasn't ready to throw himself on his sword like Kesler.

"We could have gotten a few more breaks," said Burrows, who denied having any serious injuries. "It would have been nice.

"Our special teams and discipline kind of cost us. We have to be better next year."

Henrik Sedin won the NHL scoring title with 112 points and has been nominated as a league MVP. He couldn't explain why a Canuck team with talent and playoff experience crumbled under pressure. "We have the team in here, we should have made it further," said Sedin. "We are a better team than losing in the second round."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Munoz takes lead in first LPGA event since Blasberg's death

Azahara Munoz shot a 7-under 65 on Thursday to take a one-stroke lead over Katherine Hull and Jee Young Lee in the Bell Micro LPGA Classic, the LPGA Tour's first event since Erica Blasberg was found dead. Blasberg died Sunday in suburban Las Vegas and her agent said she had been all set to attempt to qualify for the field at Magnolia Grove. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Richard, Lafleur ... Cammalleri?

High-scoring Canadiens forward matching feats of team legends

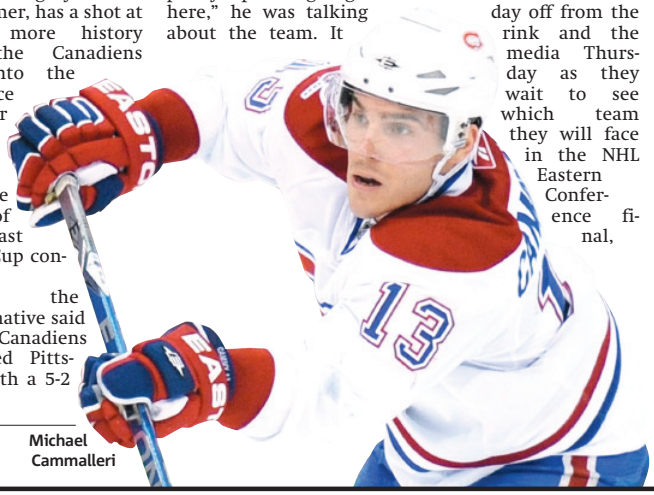
Michael Cammalleri is not just scoring goals for the Montreal Canadiens, he is matching the feats of some of the 24-time Stanley Cup champions greatest stars.

With seven goals in a seven-game series victory over the defending Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins, Cammalleri equalled a team record for tallies in a single playoff series shared by Maurice (Rocket) Richard (1944 and 1958), Jean Beliveau (1956), Bernard (Boom Boom) Geoffrion (1957), Guy Lafleur (1975) and Marcel Bonin (1959) — all of them but Bonin long established members of the Hockey Hall of Fame.

How's that for company?

And Cammalleri, who signed as a free agent from the Calgary Flames last summer, has a shot at making more history when the Canadiens move into the conference final for the first time since 1993, the year of their last Stanley Cup conquest.

When the Toronto native said after the Canadiens eliminated Pittsburgh with a 5-2 win Wednesday night that "there's something pretty special going on here," he was talking about the team. It was left to others to say the same about him.



Michael Cammalleri

The Canadiens had a day off from the rink and the media Thursday as they wait to see which team they will face in the NHL Eastern Conference final, which will be decided Friday night in a Game 7 showdown between the Boston Bruins and the Philadelphia Flyers.

Once it starts with Game 1 Sunday (CBC, 4 p.m. PT), more team records will be in danger.

Cammalleri had two game-winning goals against Pittsburgh and one in the first round against Washington, leaving him one short of a team record shared by Richard (1958), Beliveau (1965) Lafleur (1975) and Claude Lemieux (1986).

The 27-year-old, whose previous playoff experience was one round with Calgary last spring, has 12 goals in 13 playoff games this season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bruins calm despite losses

GAME 7 Now the Boston Bruins know how the Philadelphia Flyers felt the past week. Win or put away the skates for the season.

Like the Flyers after they lost the first three games of their Eastern Conference semifinal, the Bruins are determined not to let three straight losses affect them in Friday night's Game 7. There's no more leeway for either team anymore.

The Bruins showed calmness and spoke confidently after a nearly hour-long practice Thursday. Barely 12 hours earlier, that practice became necessary with the Flyers' 2-1 win.

"They've had their season on the line the last three games and they've had an extra gear that we didn't match," Boston defenceman Dennis Wideman said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mitchell says NHL not doing enough about head shots

DISCIPLINE Canucks defenceman Willie Mitchell isn't happy with the way the NHL has handled the head shot issue, saying some discipline should have been handed out for the hit that cut his season short.

"I am disappointed in the league, disappointed in Colin Campbell," Mitchell said Thursday of the NHL vice-president who handles all the league's discipline issues. "As we've seen (he's) been very inconsistent with how he's handled himself in those situations."

Mitchell spoke to the media Thursday for the first time since he suffered a concussion in a Jan. 16 game after a hit by Evgeni Malkin of the Pittsburgh Penguins sent him head first into the boards.

Campbell defended the league's actions.

"We in hockey operations, and particularly myself, take player safety and all player's actions very seriously," Campbell wrote in an e-mail to The Canadian Press.

"We have constantly reviewed supplemental discipline and head hits with the entire group of general managers at our GM's meetings to insure consistency." THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL PLAYOFFS

FRIDAY GAME

Philadelphia at Boston, 4 p.m. (Series tied 3-3)

NBA PLAYOFFS

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Boston 94 Cleveland 85 (Boston wins series 4-2)

HOCKEY

WORLD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Russia 3 Belarus 1

Norway 5 France 1

Slovakia 5 Kazakhstan 1

Czech Republic 2 Sweden 1

BASEBALL

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS

Baltimore 6 Seattle 5

Detroit 6 N.Y. Yankees 0

Kansas City 6 Cleveland 4

Texas 2 Oakland 1 (12 ings)

THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS

Houston 4 St. Louis 1

San Diego 1 San Francisco 0

Florida 2 N.Y. Mets 1

Washington at Colorado

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Williams sisters sitting pretty at the top

Serena and Venus Williams are going to be back at the top of the rankings together for the first time in seven years. The WTA Tour says Venus Williams is assured of moving up to No. 2 Monday, one spot behind younger sister Serena. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadiens rewarding their faithful fans

Sometimes, it's easy to lose touch. The chase for Lord Stanley's mug rages on, but you're consumed with soccer's impending World Cup and all the information you have to cram into your brain before kickoff.

Then, something grabs you by the throat and brings you back.

"Les Bleu, Blanc, Rouge sont la!"

It's Kelvin, the Jamaican-born security guard at the office who reminds you that the Montreal Canadiens are still in it — still headed toward another improbable date with destiny.

"Have a little faith, man," chuckles Kelvin. "I grew up in Brossard on the South Shore. I love those guys."

What's not to love?

In an age where players change stripes frequently and where cities become franchises in the marketplace of sport — the Habs still inspire passion, loyalty, sometimes hatred and most importantly ... attention.

They are hockey's old faithful.

Game 7 in Pittsburgh and Hockey Night in Canada's theme surrounds the religious overtones the Canadiens inspire in their followers. There's a shot of the greatest French Canadian never to play for Montreal, Mario Lemieux, who now owns the Penguins. When the Habs take to the ice at the Igloo, Lemieux smiles broadly with delight.

There's also the incredible scene at the far-off home of the Habs: The Bell Centre jammed to the rafters — 21,000 strong — watching the game on TV. Then a late third-period call comes from Harold, your old friend from Montreal days.

"I can't believe they're going to win this," he blurts before saying hello. "I have to go now," and hangs up.

With every Canadiens' win this post-season, the magic grows. They are luring us onto their team and making our hockey connection even stronger.

"I'm in a bit of a dream world right now," Kelvin giggles the morning after the win.

"I wanted to believe in them and now I do."

The Canadiens have once again become the nation's touchstone.

Sometimes, you just have to go along for the ride and have faith in old faithful.

Gemini Award winner and author Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. A 20-year CBC Sports veteran, he has covered a variety of professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

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Celtics end Cavs' run

(Boston wins series 4-2)

Cavaliers 85 Celtics 94

The Boston Celtics advanced to the Eastern Conference finals with a 94-85 victory over Cleveland in Game 6 on Thursday night, sending LeBron James and the Cavaliers into an early off-season destined to define the future of the franchise — and the rest of the NBA, too.

The LeBron watch began at 10:53 p.m., when Rajon Rondo dribbled out the last 14 seconds and the Celtics began celebrating. James is eligible to opt out of his contract this summer, a move that would make the two-time MVP — and zero-time NBA champion — a free agent and set off a scramble for his services from New York to Miami to Los Angeles and, of course, back in Cleveland. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Love she wrote

Pg 21

Amanda Seyfried stars in Letters to Juliet, a film that is as sensuously beautiful as it is emotionally predictable.

Movies Pg 20

Robin Hood aims high, but Crowe misses the bull's eye.

Music Pg 26

Toronto electronic band Holy F—k is back with Latin.

Style Pg 29

Sex and the City fashion is back and shinier than ever.

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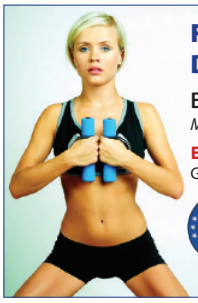

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At a glance
Robin Hood ⊕⊕, Letters To Juliet ⊕⊕½, The Trotsky ⊕⊕⊕½, Just Wright ⊕½, Mao's Last Dancer ⊕⊕⊕

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Robin Hood misses mark

Russell Crowe shakes up medieval England with his turn as Robin Hood.

Robin **Hood**

Director: Ridley Scott
Stars: Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
Classification: PG
Rating: ⊕⊕

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

On the web

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There's a fundamental flaw in trying to fabricate the origin of a folk hero whose legend has been repeated in various forms since medieval times — it's simply unnecessary.

Oh, it's an interesting idea of course. But the lore of Robin Hood is so ingrained in minds that trying to produce a story that essentially imagines how he became who he became is remarkably redundant.

Filmmaker Ridley Scott teams up with Russell Crowe for the fifth time to reawaken this character but beyond a few flashy action sequences which (in the wake of every medieval fantasy produced since Lord of the Rings) may be impressive but are far from mind-blowing.

Still, this convoluted adaptation shows how a skilled archer in Richard the Lionheart's 12th century crusades ended up bearing news of the King's death to the Royal Court and assumed the identity of a Nottingham soldier. As such, Robin rallies his fellow countrymen to confront French armies that plan to invade England at the influence of a royal turncoat.

Got that? If not, don't worry; this movie eagerly meshes too many storylines to form the beginnings of the Robin Hood audiences know and love and will, presumably, fill theatres to see anyhow. As such, the film's tactical approach struggles to develop a beating heart.

At least Crowe and Cate Blanchett (as a damsel never quite in distress) have the Oscar-winning acting chops to breathe life into this blockbuster blueprint. In the end however, this Robin Hood may not "rob from the rich and give to the poor," but after emptying your wallet at the box office, you may just wish it did.

"THE MOST ROMANTIC MOVIE OF THE YEAR."
– Greg Russell, MOVIE SHOW PLUS

"★★★★. LOVED IT! Vanessa Redgrave is sensational and Amanda Seyfried will absolutely steal your heart!"
– Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV

"Truly romantic and honestly funny!"
– Stephen Schaefer, BOSTON HERALD

"★★★★. A lovely and irresistible tale of true love… It's altogether wonderful."
– Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

"A romantic, enchanting and beautiful love story. 'Letters' is the perfect date movie."
– Maria Salas, TERRA TV

LETTERS TO JULIET

SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS AN APPLEHEAD PICTURES PRODUCTION A MARK CANTON PRODUCTION A FILM BY GARY WINICK "LETTERS TO JULIET" AMANDA SEYFRIED CHRISTOPHER EGAN GAEL GARCIA BERNAL AND VANESSA REDGRAVE FRANCO NERO MUSIC BY ANDREA GUERRA PRODUCED BY CAROLINE KAPLAN ELLEN BARKIN MARK CANTON
G
WRITTEN BY JOSE RIVERA AND TIM SULLIVAN DIRECTED BY GARY WINICK
LettersToJuliet-Movie.com

STARTS TODAY CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES FOR LOCATIONS AND SHOWTIMES

Ballet dancer Chi Cao stars in Mao's Last Dancer.

Dancer pulls heartstrings

Mao's **Last Dancer**

Director: Bruce Beresford
Stars: Chai Cao, Bruce Greenwood
Classification: PG
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Mao's Last Dancer is one of those "inspirational true story" movies custom-made to be crowd pleasers.

The Australian production is headed by Driving Miss Daisy director Bruce Beresford and is even based on an autobiography by the central character.

The pedigree suggests heartwarming schmaltz and the filmmakers deliver. As long as you aren't expecting anything more than that, the movie will warm your blackened heart.

The film tells the tale of ballet dancer Li Cunxin, who grew up in rural poverty in Mao's communist China before being selected for the national ballet school.

His considerable skills soon led him to become the first dancer allowed to leave China to study in America.

He quickly adjusts to the new country's charm and falls in love with a lovely waspy ballerina. When he tries to marry his way into American citizenship the Chinese government throws a hissy fit, transforming Li into an important political figure as well as a beloved dancer.

The story is touching and powerful, with a nice cast led by award winning dancer Chi Cao, who combines forces with director Bruce Beresford to create some beautifully choreographed dance sequences.

That said, the slow burn two-hour running time can be a little butt-numbing and the sentimentality is laid on so thick that it will inevitably irritate audiences with even an ounce of cynicism.

Fortunately, the central story is so sweet and the cast so carefully assembled that it's hard not to be charmed by the film.

Wonderful and hilarious supporting turns by Bruce Greenwood and Kyle MacLachlan keep the movie alive.

British Awakening
Rebecca Hall, Dominic West and Imelda Staunton have joined the cast of the proudly British thriller The Awakening. Regular TV director Nick Murphy is behind the camera for this one, a tale of ghosts and mystery set in 1920s England. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Love's Letters lost

Letters to **Juliet**

Director: Gary Winick
Stars: Amanda Seyfried, Vanessa Redgrave
Classification: PG
Rating: ⊕⊕½

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

Amanda Seyfried's everywhere these days. From Big Love to a slew of recent films, the doe-eyed blond, who is as ubiquitous as she is unconventionally beautiful, has tackled a range of roles.

Letters to Juliet's Sophie is worlds away from the titular character in Chloe or as Needy in Jennifer's Body. Even if her choices seem odd, there's no denying the girl is skilled.

And talk about being in the moment. Seyfried starred as Liam Neeson's prostitute/lover in Chloe and in Letter to Juliet she plays muse to Neeson's mother-in-law Vanessa Redgrave, the mother of his late wife, Natasha.

As for Redgrave, her presence elevates any film. She is the heart and soul of Letters, able to convey meaning with the slightest gesture.

Redgrave has nobility and strength of character,, and gives this sweet confection refinement and a degree of believability it needs.

Seyfried's aspiring writer/fact checker Sophie is taking a pre-honeymoon trip to Verona in Italy with her irritating chef fiancé Victor (Gael Garcia Bernal), who will be too busy to pay attention to her after the wedding.

Sophie finds Giulieta's "balcony" in Verona that advertises itself as Romeo and Juliet's courtyard. Weeping girls from all over the world post their romantic sob stories on the walls, hoping Giulieta will reply with cheering advice. In fact, Giulieta's "secretaries" reply in her voice.

Sophie infiltrates the secretarial pool and answers a letter left by lovelorn Claire, an English teenager, in 1957. Claire (Redgrave) arrives in Verona in hopes of being somehow mystically reunited with her local lost lover through Sophie. Her handsome but snooty grandson Charlie (Chris Egan) is there to hand out reality checks.

Against all common sense, the trio embark on a a cross-country search for a lost lover.

The film is straight-up eye candy, shot in Tuscany with its gorgeous tapestry of sensuality, and golden light, food, and wine.

But the premise is beyond belief. A few clunky lines that don't belong break the intended spell with a thud.

There are resonant moments of emotional awakening and tributes to lost loves that bring a tear to the eye, but predictability kills the dramatic tension.

• For a trailer of Letters to Juliet, screen times and photos, visit metronews.ca/movies

Vanessa Redgrave, left, and Amanda Seyfried star in Letters to Juliet.

"THE FUNNIEST SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE FILM SINCE WAYNE'S WORLD."
CINEMATICAL
"...THE BEST ACTION-COMEDY SINCE BEVERLY HILLS COP."
THE ATLANTIC
"...CRUDE, RIDICULOUS AND VERY, VERY FUNNY."
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MACGRUBER
IN THEATRES FRIDAY, MAY 21
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alliancefilms.com/RushBeyondtheLightedStage
THE BABIES ARRIVE NEXT FRIDAY!
★★★★ (OUT OF 4) "INGENIOUSLY SIMPLE... TOUCHING AND FUNNY AND THOUGHTFUL TOO." Rick Groen, THE GLOBE AND MAIL
"BRILLIANT! A FILM THAT EVERYONE WHO HAS REARED OR IS CONTEMPLATING RAISING A CHILD SHOULD SEE." AARP
"IF YOU WERE ENRAPTURED BY 'MARCH OF THE PENGUINS', WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE 'BABIES'!" USA TODAY
"THIS COULD BE THE FEEL-GOOD MOVIE OF THE DECADE!" MOVIEFONE
"A MUST-SEE!" HARPER'S BAZAAR
Everybody loves... BABIES
BabiesTheMovie.com
facebookcom/alliancefilmsinc
youtube.com/alliancefilmsinc
IN THEATRES FRIDAY, MAY 21
"Jay Baruchel shines as a leading man. One of the best high school comedies I've seen in a long time. EXCEEDINGLY FUNNY!" -Scott Weinberg, Cinematical
"Smart, funny and wildly original!" -Brian D. Johnson, MacLean's
THE TROTSKY
THE REVOLUTION BEGINS IN HIGH SCHOOL.
PG COARSE LANGUAGE
thetrotskymovie.com facebook.com/alliancefilmsinc youtube.com/alliancefilmsinc
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STARTS TODAY! Check Theatre Directory for showtimes. ✳ DIGITAL SOUND
FACEBOOK.COM/ALLIANCEFILMSINC YOUTUBE.COM/ALLIANCEFILMSINC

Watts to play Monroe

Naomi Watts has signed on to star as Marilyn Monroe in a new adaptation of Joyce Carol Oates' imagined memoir, Blonde. The film will be helmed by Andrew Dominik, the director of 2007's The Assassination Of Jesse James. IMDB.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Commie comedy charmer

The **Trotsky**

Director: Jacob Tierney
Stars: Jay Baruchel, Colm Feore, Emily Hampshire
Classification: 14A
Rating: ●●●½

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

Most 17- year-olds are concerned with school, sports and finding a date for the prom.

Not Leon Bronstein (Jay Baruchel). In The Trotsky, a new comedy starring How to Train Your Dragon's lead voice, he is convinced he's the reincarnation of revolutionary Leon Trotsky and tries to unionize the students of Montreal West High School. "The teachers have a union," he says. "I think we deserve the same."

Leon Bronstein's (which was Trotsky's given name) journey from privileged rich kid to budding Bolshevik begins when he organizes a hunger strike at his father's (Saul Rubinek) clothing factory. In retaliation Dad pulls Leon out of boarding school, slashes his allowance and exiles him to a public school. There he finds his calling (and falls for an older woman played by Emily Hampshire).

Jay Baruchel, centre, has revolution in his head in The Trotsky.

Taking the term "student union" a bit too seriously, Leon rails against his new school's tyrannical hierarchy — notably Principal Berkhoff (an ominous Colm Feore) — and goes to absurd lengths to fulfill his pre-ordained destiny by changing the world — or at least his small corner of it.

This Canadian commie comedy is chock full of funny lines, nice performances and echoes of Ferris Bueller's Day Off.

Actor turned director-and-writer Jacob Tierney shows a firm hand behind the camera and has crafted a movie that is a cut above the standard teen caper. It's more inventive, funnier, grittier than most teen fare, and while Tierney can take credit for much of the film's success, it is Baruchel who really impresses.

In what looks to be Baruchel's breakout year — he has four films on the slate for 2010 including The Sorcerer's Apprentice opposite Nic Cage — The Trotsky is a delightfully idiosyncratic performance.

Leon may be a little left of centre, both personally and politically, but Baruchel humanizes him. It's a riff on the gawky geek role he patented in Tropic Thunder and Knocked Up, but this time he adds so much charm (and a good dollop of slapstick) to the performance it's hard not to root for his and Leon's mad mission.

The Trotsky works because of its clever script and optimistic outlook, but it sparkles because of Baruchel's performance.

• For a trailer of The Trotsky, photos and screentimes, visit metronews.ca/movies

No rom-com cliché left untouched

Just **Wright**

Director: Sanaa Hamri
Stars: Queen Latifah, Common
Classification: PG
Rating: ●½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Romantic comedies are like ATM machines for Hollywood studios.

The date night audience is huge and requires little originality or even thought from the filmmakers. Introduce a struggling single lady to Mr. Right, keep them apart until the last reel and you've got yourself a hit.

Just Wright hits all the hallmarks of the genre and it's just as trite as whatever is next on the rom-com assembly line.

Queen Latifah stars as a physical therapist and basketball fanatic who can't seem to find herself a man (sigh). A chance encounter brings her close to her favourite New Jersey Nets player (Common), but her hottie gold-digging sister (Paula Patton) wins his heart. At least that's true until an injury throws his career in jeopardy and she jumps ship. However, the player now needs a physical therapist and, yadda yadda yadda, love conquers all.

From the first scene the filmmakers slavishly follow every tired rom-com formula imaginable. Not a single character appears on screen without servicing the love story.

An above average cast lead by the likable Latifah/Common duo and aided by Pam "Foxy Brown" Grier and Phylicia "Mrs. Huxtable" Rashad do what they can with the material, but never make their characters feel like more than genre types.

• For a trailer of Just Wright, screentimes and photos, visit metronews.ca/movies

No agenda in Babies doc

IAN GORMLEY
for Metro Canada

FEATURE Documentary films have enjoyed unprecedented success with audiences over the last five years, but according to Thomas Balmes, director of the new film Babies, all those movies — be it Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth or Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9/11 — offer a skewed version of reality.

"The specificity of documentary is reality," insists the director. "Things with narration, interviews, archives, according to me, are not documentary."

His film, Babies, examines the lives of four babies in four different countries — U.S.A., Japan, Namibia and Mongolia from birth to their first steps.

"Here you don't have one thing that has been set up. This is the most rough material in the world; long shots with very little editing, very little music and absolutely no verbal communication," he says.

"Nevertheless you have comedy, you have drama you have tensions, the usual things you can expect from a film."

In the documentary Babies, director Thomas Balmes explores the lives of babies in four countries.

Babies opens in theatres next Friday

Alain Chabat, most famous in North America for directing Asterix and Obelix, first approached Balmes about film a nature documentary about babies.

"I adopted the original idea to something that I felt comfortable with."

Having with Chabet on board as a producer gave him the trust of their financial backers to create such a simple but ambitious film.

"It's very unusual to have such confidence," says Balmes. Normally, "you can't say to a guy at a studio, 'Well I don't know what's going to happen, but believe me it's going to be good.'"

Balmes doesn't favour one form of child rearing over another. Instead, he wants people to compare the way children are raised in different cultures. "I'm fascinated in the variety of cultures."

The director, born in 1960s France, says his parents went out of their way to not impose a specific lifestyle on him a as a child. He started making films when he was 20, with an aim to "shift perspective not by documenting other cultures, but by comparing them. There is not an agenda behind me, I'm not Michael Moore," he says. "I make films to have more questions, not to find answers."

Cineplex | Empire | AMC | Alliance Cinemas | ATNY | Independent

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY. 14 TO THURS., MAY. 20. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Beavers (STC) A.M. Fri-Thu 11
Gold Fever (STC) Fri-Thu 1-3
Journey to Mecca in the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta (STC) Sat-Sun 5
The Ultimate Wave Tahiti (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2-4

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:20-4-7-9:35 Mon-Thu 7-9:35

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:55
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:30-10:05
Mao's Last Dancer (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-9:35
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:50-9:25
The Trotsky (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-9:45

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 6:55-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-6:55-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:10
Chloe (18A) Fri 7:10 Sat-Sun 1:25-3:50-7:10 Mon-Thu 5:55
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri-Sun 9:50 Mon-Thu 8:05
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 6:40 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:05-6:40 Mon-Thu 5:20
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-8 Mon-Thu 8
Green Zone (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:35-4:10-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Fri 6:45-9:45 Sat 1:15-4 Sun 1:15-4-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:25
The Losers (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:20
The Runaways (14A) Fri-Sun 9:25 Mon-Thu 8:25

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

Legion (14A) Fri 9:45 Sat-Sun 3:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 9:45
Shutter Island (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

How to Train Your Dragon (G) DTS Digital Fri 7-9:30 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:30 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5:15-8
Iron Man 2 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 7:15-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4:15-7:15-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
Robin Hood (14A) DTS Digital, No Passes Fri 6:45-9:50 DTS Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:50 DTS Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 5-8:15

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

Close-Up (STC) Thu 7
For the Love of Movies: The Story of American Film Criticism (STC) Mon 7:8:40
Forgiveness (STC) Wed 7:30
Grand Hotel (STC) Tue 1
The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers (STC) Thu 9
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-Sun

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Letters To Juliet (G) Fri 4-7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:15

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Robin Hood (14A) Fri 4-6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-4-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 4-6:50-9:30

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

Beyond Gay After School Special (STC) Mon 4
Big Trouble in Little China (STC) Fri
Escape From New York (STC) Fri
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:20-6:40-10:30 Mon-Tue 2-6:40-10:30 Wed-Thu 2-10:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:20-9:40
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10:20 No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:10-6:30-9:50 No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7:30-10:40
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7:40-10:35
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:30-10:40
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:50-12:10-3-3:30-6:50-7:10-10:15-10:45
Times Talks Live: Lost (STC) Thu 7

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:40-7:15-9:45
Exit Through the Gift Shop (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-2:55-4:05-5:10-6:25-7:35-8:45-9:55
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:30-9
Just Wright (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 2:35-5:05-7:40-10:10
Letters To Juliet (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-2:45-3:45-5:15-6:35-7:45-9:05-10:15
Mao's Last Dancer (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:35-7:20-10
Oceans (G) Fri-Wed 1:10-3:15-5:20
Please Give (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:25-3:50-6:10-7:25-8:30-9:40 No Passes Wed 1:25-3:50-6:10-8:30-9:40 No Passes Thu 1:25-3:50-6:10-7:25-8:30-9:40
The Secret in Their Eyes (14A) Fri-Tue 1-3:55-7-9:50 Wed 1-3:55-9:50 Thu 1-3:55-7-9:50
The Trotsky (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:05-10:05

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film
vifc.org

Anthony and Cleopatra (STC) Mon 6:30
Call Theatre For Showtimes (STC) Fri-Sun
Doxa Documentary Film Festival (STC) Fri-Sun
Silence of the Heart of Things (STC) Wed-Thu 7
The Socalled Movie (STC) Thu 8:45

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

Robin Hood (14A) Fri 6:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 3:40-6:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri 6:40-8-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-1:15-3:30-4:30-6:40-8-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:40-8-9:40
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri 7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
Oceans (G) Fri 7:10-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Avatar 3D (14A) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12:40-4-8 Mon-Thu 8
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 6:40-9:10
Date Night (PG) Fri 6:50-9 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:50-9 Mon-Thu 6:50-9 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Furry Vengeance (G) Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri 6:30-7:10-9:30-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-12:30-3-3:30-6:30-7:10-9:30-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-7:10-9:30-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri 4:20-7:15-9:45 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:15-9:45 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:15
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 4:15-6:55 Sat 1:15-4:15-6:55 Sun 1:15-4:15 Mon-Thu 4:15
Gunless (PG) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun-Thu 6:55
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri 4:05-7:10 No Passes Sat 1:05-4:05-7:10 No Passes Sun 1:05-4:05-7 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:05-7
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri 4:10-7:10-9:40 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:40 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri 4:25-7:20-9:50 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:20-9:50 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri 4-7:05-10:05 No Passes Sat 1-4-7:05-10:05 No Passes Sun 1-4-7:05 No Passes Mon-Thu 4-7:05

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:15-6:50-10:05
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:55-9:50
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 12-3-6:30-9:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:35-7:05-9:45
Death at a Funeral (14A) Fri-Thu 9:30
Ekam - Son of Soil (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:25-8:05
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:35-4:55-7:25
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 9:55
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Tue 1-4-7-10 Wed 1-4-10 Thu 1-4-7-10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:30-1-4-4:30-7:30-8-10:45-11:30 No Passes Sun-Wed 12:30-1-4-4:30-7:30-8-10:45 No Passes Thu 12:30-4-4:30-7:30-8-10:45 No Passes Fri-Sat 11:30-3-7-10:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 11:30-3-7-10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Iron Man 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12 No Passes Sat 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12 No Passes Sun 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 No Passes Mon-Wed 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 No Passes Thu 12:50-3:40
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:15
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri-Wed 12:40-3:50-7:15-10:25 Thu 3:50-7:15-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:15-10:05
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri-Sat 11:30-12:35-2:55-3:55-6:30-7:30-10:10-10:45 No Passes Fri-Sat 12-3:30-7:10-10:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 12-3:30-7:10-10:30
Times Talks Live: Lost (STC) Thu 7

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Date Night (PG) Fri-Wed 5-7-9
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sat 4:45-7:15-9:40 Sun 2-4:45-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:15-9:40

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Wed 12:20-3:20-7:05-9:50 Thu 12:20-3:20-9:50
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:50-6:55-9:55
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:20-1:45-4:15-6:50-9:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-12:30-3:15-4-6:40-7:15-10-10:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:30-7:45-10:45
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri-Thu 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:35-10:25
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 11:40-2-4:35-7:35-10:15
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:55-7:30-10:40 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-3:40-7-10:20
Times Talks Live: Lost (STC) Thu 7

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 4:05-7:05-10:05 Sat 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Sun 1:05-4:05-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:05
Date Night (PG) Fri 4:25-7:25-10:25 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:25
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri 4:15-7:15-10:15 Sat 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15
Gunless (PG) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri 4-7:10 Sat 1-4-7:10 Sun 1-4-7 Mon-Thu 4-7
The Losers (PG) Fri 4:10-7:10-10:10 Sat 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
Oceans (G) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:50-6:45-9:55
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Wed 12:20-4-7:15-10:25 Thu 12:20-4-10:25
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:20-10:30
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:25-7:40-10:35
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-7:05
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:15-6:45-10:10
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:10-4:45-7:35-10:05
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 11:30-12:05-1-2:55-3:15-4:30-6:20-6:50-8-9:30-10 No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12:05-1-2:55-3:15-4:30-6:30-7:30-9:30-10:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10
Letters To Juliet (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:45-7:15-9:45
The Losers (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:20
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:40-10:20
Robin Hood (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-4:15-6:45-7:45-10:15

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterontheatres.com

Date Night (PG) Fri 7:10-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:05 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:05
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 2-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criterontheatres.com

Furry Vengeance (G) Sat-Sun 2:30
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri 7-7:20-9:20-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-2:20-7-7:20-9:20-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-7:20-9:20-9:40
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 7:30-9:15
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 1:30-7 Mon-Thu 7 Thu 12:30
The Last Song (G) Fri-Thu 9:05

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri 5 Sat-Sun 12-2:40-5 Mon-Thu 5
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 2:45-7 Mon-Thu 7
Clash of the Titans (14A) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:15
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (G) Fri 5 Sat-Sun 12:45-5 Mon-Thu 5
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 9:10
The Last Song (G) Fri 4:50-7 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:50-7 Mon-Thu 4:50-7
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 9:10

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

Badmaash Company (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:50-7:40-10:45
Date Night (PG) Fri-Thu 6:40-9:20
Ekam - Son of Soil (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:30-8
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:10
House Full (PG) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:20-7:05-10:25
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:10-4:40-7:20-9:50
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:45-1:15-3:45-4:20-7:7:30-10:10-10:40 No Passes Wed 1:15-3:45-4:20-7:7:30-10:10-10:40 No Passes Thu 12:45-1:15-3:45-4:20-7:7:30-10:10-10:40 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-3:15-6:30-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:30 Wed 3:40-6:50-9:30 Thu 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:50-7:50-10:20
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:12:30-3:30-4-6:45-7:15-10-10:30

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

The Back-up Plan (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Clash of the Titans (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10
Date Night (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-4:05-7:20-9:40
Furry Vengeance (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:55
How to Train Your Dragon (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-6:40-9:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:30-4:30-6:30-7:30-9:30-10:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital Presentation, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10
Letters To Juliet (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:45-7:15-9:45
The Losers (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:20
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:40-10:20
Robin Hood (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-4:15-6:45-7:45-10:15

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-6:55-9:40
The Back-up Plan (PG) Fri-Tue 12:15-3:30-7:20-10:25 Wed 12:15-7:20-10:25 Thu 12:15-3:30-7:20-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Clash of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:35-7:05-9:55
Date Night (PG) Fri-Wed 12:25-3:55-7:10 Thu 12:25-3:55-10
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (G) Fri-Thu 11:45-2:25-4:55-7:35
Furry Vengeance (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:50
Gunless (PG) Fri-Thu 9:30
Hot Tub Time Machine (18A) Fri-Thu 9:45
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:35-2:15-4:50-7:30-10:10
Iron Man 2 (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:30-12-2:40-3:10-6-7-9:35-10:30 No Passes Fri 1:20-4:30-7:40-11 No Passes Sat-Sun 10:15-1:20-4:30-7:40-11 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:40-11
Iron Man 2: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12:10 No Passes Sat 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20-12:10 No Passes Sun 10-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 No Passes Mon-Wed 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20
Just Wright (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:55-3:25-7:15-10
Kick-Ass (18A) Fri-Thu 10:20
Letters To Juliet (G) Fri-Tue 12:30-3:40-7:10-9:50 Wed 12:30-7:10-9:50 Thu 12:30-3:40-7:10-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
The Losers (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:25-10:05
A Nightmare on Elm Street (18A) Fri-Thu 12:40-4-7:45-10:25
Oceans (G) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:20-4:45-7:10
Robin Hood (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:35-12:05-12:35-2:45-3:15-3:45-6:30-7:05-7:30-9:45-10:15-10:45
Times Talks Live: Lost (STC) Thu 7

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

How to Train Your Dragon (G) Fri-Sat 9 Sun-Thu 11:15
Iron Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sat 11 Sun-Thu 9
Shutter Island (14A) Fri-Sat 1:15

Superpowered TV

ABC has picked up its first new series for the fall, the drama No Ordinary Family. It follows a family with superhero powers and stars Michael Chiklis (The Shield) as the patriarch and Julie Benz (Dexter) as his wife. **TVGUIDE.COM**

Television

GETTY IMAGES

J.J. Abrams' groundbreaking Lost is coming to an end.

J.J. Abrams' packed life

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

TELEVISION J.J. Abrams is one busy man.

With his latest hit series, Fringe, gaining new fans, several new TV and film projects in the works and the teaser trailer for his next film, Super 8, burning up the Internet, the writer, director and producer has one of the most crowded plates in the entertainment industry.

At least one of his projects, the groundbreaking TV series Lost, is wrapping up. Abrams found the time to sit down with Metro — on a Sunday, no less — to talk shop.

Q What can you say about Lost coming to an end?

A I feel like Lost did a wonderful thing in ABC and Damon [Lindelof] and Carlton [Cuse] came to this agreement to allow the show to end after the sixth season, which three years ago, I think was a shockingly bold thing for the network to agree to.

Q How many projects are you working on at the moment?

A I'm getting some more fingers sewed onto my hand. There are a number of projects, but I'm one of a number of people working on those things. It's not like it's me alone in this room.

Q How involved are you with Fringe?

A Well, my role in Fringe now is to be there when they need me to be there, and it actually would be more damaging to come in, you know, kind of periodically and just kick things around. This is a big question for me: How much do I get involved?

The man behind Sheldon

Big Bang Theory star credits writing for character's success

Playing Sheldon Cooper isn't rocket science. Nor, for that matter, is it theoretical physics, Sheldon's chosen field as the science virtuoso of The Big Bang Theory.

So says Jim Parsons, who plays Sheldon on that hit CBS sitcom.

"It's all right there in the script," Parsons insists. "I'm not trying to eschew credit or be falsely modest, but there's a part of me that feels like I didn't come up with anything. For me, for the most part, it's very clear: It's the words."

Fans of Big Bang might take issue with Parsons' self-appraisal, particularly after spending a cordial, non-Sheldony interview session with him. Granted, most people don't use the word "eschew" in everyday discourse, but for the most part, Parsons strikes a pleasingly impressive contrast to his sitcom alter ego, who happens to be socially challenged, nerdy, high-strung, blunt-spoken and beyond the pale in his devotion to science.

Parsons, on the other hand, has tried and given up understanding physics, is cheery and unassuming, and has a twinkle in his eye as he talks about the show. At 6-foot-2 and a young-looking 37, he shares Sheldon's lankiness, but not the uptight manner or Sheldon's goofy-sounding "gotcha!" substitute: "bazinga!"

All in all, it's an object lesson in his skill as an actor.

Big Bang, concluding its third season this month, places Sheldon in a familiar sitcom premise: He shares an apartment with friend and fellow brainy CalTech scientist Leonard Hofstadter (played by Johnny Galecki, Roseanne). Geeky research chums Howard (Simon Helberg) and Rajesh (Kunal Nayyar) drop by with comically timed frequency.

CBS

Jim Parsons, right, plays nerdy Sheldon Cooper in the CBS sitcom The Big Bang Theory.

And across the hall, by sitcom good fortune, resides Penny, a lovely blonde played by Kaley Cuoco (8 Simple Rules) who aspires to be an actress but pays the rent by waiting tables at a Cheesecake Factory. She is notably not a genius.

If this thumbnail description sounds a bit by-the-book, Parsons wouldn't disagree.

"I said it from the beginning: From the description, some people are going to say, 'I don't care. I don't want to watch two nerds and their pretty neighbour.'"

Happily, The Big Bang Theory began life as much more. Then, under the tutelage of sitcom maestro Chuck Lorre (Two and a Half Men) it continued to grow.

The creative evolution of the show might be framed in the same terms with which Sheldon received Penny's greeting, "How ya been?"

"Well," said Sheldon, literal as ever, "my existence is a continuum, so I've been what I am at each point in the implied time period."

Turns out, there was a point in Parsons' career continuum when even he wasn't sure how he felt about the show.

A Houston native who had a recurring role on Judging Amy and appeared in films including Garden State and School for Scoundrels, he arrived to audition for Sheldon having no clear reaction to the show overall.

He only knew from the script that he wanted to play Sheldon. "I wanted the chance to talk this weird way that he talks, and this odd way he communicates with people."

Bazinga! The role as this head-in-the-clouds science savant was his.

"Leonard wants to reach out and be part of the normal world. But Sheldon doesn't see the point, and in fact thinks the farther you can stay away from it, the better your work's going to be," Parsons sums up.

Meanwhile, Penny is sufficiently astute to find things to like in both these guys, eccentricities and all. She has the insight to appreciate their mental capacity, however far it might loom beyond her reach.

So does Parsons, by the way.

"They're not just nerds, they're not just geeks. They are geniuses! They're beautiful minds," he declares. "And I've come to find that, for me as an actor, playing Sheldon opens up anything. Things that he would think of, ways that he would act — anything's possible for me. It's very freeing." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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NBC wants to rewards its fans

Fans who share their passion for NBC shows online could earn the network's appreciation — and prizes — in return.

"Fan It," an initiative aimed at turning social-media users into an ad hoc promotional team for the network, will launch Monday, NBC said Thursday.

"A recommendation from a friend is infinitely more powerful than any message we can put out through conventional marketing channels," said Adam Stotsky, president of NBC Entertainment Marketing.

PHOTO: KRISTIN HATHAWAY/NBC

If you sign up for NBC's new initiative "Fan It" you might win a prop from the desk of Michael Scott from the Office.

After signing up on NBC's website and logging in to their Facebook, Twitter, MySpace or MyNBC accounts, participants earn points through activities such as chatting about series and steering friends to NBC-related links.

The points can be redeemed for rewards including sneak previews of shows, NBC merchandise and entry into a sweepstakes to win big-ticket items such as attendance at the finale of The Biggest Loser or a prop from The Office, the network said.

A social-media promotion this season for Chuck gave a fan, David Paul of Turlock, Calif., the chance to have his photo included in one of the title character's flash-of-brilliance sequences in the May 25 finale.

The "Fan It" initiative extends through the 2010-11 season and will involve new and returning shows.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRIDAY 5/14/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	22 Minutes	Laughs	Ron James-West Coast		CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Medium "Dead Meat" (N)		The Bridge "Voices Carry"		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Friday Night Lights (N)		Shark Tank (CC)		Brothers & Sisters (CC)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Wife Swap (N) (CC)		America's Next Top Model		Miami Medical (N) (CC)		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Murdoch Mysteries		Scrubs (CC)	Scrubs (CC)	Murdoch Mysteries		Warehouse 13 "Magnetism"		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Smallville "Salvation" (CC)		America's Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Medium "Dead Meat" (N)		Miami Medical (N) (CC)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Friday Night Lights (N)		Dateline NBC (CC)				KING 5 News
	288	380	24 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap (N) (CC)		Primetime: What Would You		20/20 (N) (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	House "Knight Fall" (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares (N) (PA)		News	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Doc Zone "Forever Plastic"		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 "American Al Qaeda" (N) (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Cooper 360
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	Hockey		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Canucks TV	Week/B'ball	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre	NBA Basketball Playoffs: Teams TBA.					SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Lovewrecked (2006) Amanda Bynes, Chris Carmack. (CC)				Things I Hate	Survive This	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Batman	Wolverine	Justice	Star Wars	Futurama	King of Hill	Galaxy Quest ★★★ (1999) Tim Allen. (CC)		
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Tailor Made (CC)		Poirot "Incredible Theft"		Dalziel and Pascoe (CC)		Standing in the Shadows of Motown ★★★		
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	CMT's Greatest		Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Jim
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal Minds "Machismo"		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	34 TLC	Four Weddings (N) (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Four Weddings (CC)		Say Yes	Say Yes	Weddings
	616	522	39 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Nightmare at the End of the Hall (2008) Sara Rue. (CC)				Kenny vs.	Pure Pwnage	Misfits (CC)
	294	650	47 TBS	Miss Congeniality 2		(:10) Spanglish ★★★ (2004) Adam Sandler, Téa Leoni, Paz Vega. (CC)				My Best Friend's Wedding		
	603	561	69 FN	Diners, Drive	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Diners	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Diners, Drive
	-	-	55 AMC	(5:00) Unforgiven ★★★★		Tigerland ★★★ (2000) Colin Farrell, Matthew Davis.				(:15) The Amityville Horror ★★ (1979) (CC)		
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:20) The Lazarus Project		District 9 ★★★ (2009) Sharlto Copley. Premiere.				The Cove ★★★ (2009, Documentary)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Live	Movie Night	After

SATURDAY 5/15/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	To Be Announced				Movie (CC)				News
	250	321	9 CTV	W5 (CC) (DVS)		Flashpoint "Backwards Day"		Law & Order "Crashers"		Law & Order: SVU		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	16:9-Picture	renegade	Cheaters' Club ★★ (2006) Charisma Carpenter. Premiere.				Jane Show	G-Spot (CC)	News Final
	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	Kool Countdown (CC)		The Road to Avonlea		Stargate Atlantis		Bravo!FACT
	253	359	13 CITY	Cooking	Amazing	Glenn Martin	Out There	Amal (2007) Rupinder Nagra, Naseeruddin Shah. (CC) (DVS)				Crusoe
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me ★★★ (1999)				CSI: NY "Greater Good"		CSI: Miami
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)		The Bourne Ultimatum ★★★ (2007, Action) Matt Damon, Julia Stiles.					48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)	
	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Inside Edition	Parenthood "Solace" (CC)		Law & Order "Crashers"		Law & Order: SVU		KING 5 News
	288	380	24 ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Just Like Heaven ★★ (2005) Reese Witherspoon. (CC)				Castle "Tick, Tick, Tick ..."		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Cops (N) (PA)	Cops (N) (PA)	America's Most Wanted		News	Most Wanted	Wanda Sykes
news	502	390	23 NW	Nazi King (CC)		National	Issue	National	News Special	Nazi King (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Cooper 360
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	KO Boxing	MLS Soccer Toronto FC at Los Angeles Galaxy. (Live)				Sportsnet	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (CC)			Boxing Berto vs. Quintana & Caballero vs. Yordan.				Boxing	SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed ★★ (2004) (CC)				Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Venture Bros.	Moral Orel
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Raising the USS Monitor		Heartbeat "Return Crossing"		Midsomer Murders A choir member is found dead. (CC)				Standing
	575	583	20 CMT	Jason Aldean	Jon Bon Jovi:	The Show	Talkin' 'Bout	Gilmore Girls (CC)		Gilmore Girls (CC)		Tuckerville
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (CC)		CSI: Miami (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		(:01) Criminal Minds (CC)		Criminal
	521	560	34 TLC	Disappeared (CC)		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		Disappeared "Favorite Son"		Disappeared (CC)		Evidence
	616	522	39 SHO	ReGenesis (CC)		The House Next Door (2006) Lara Flynn Boyle. (CC)				I Am Legend ★★★ (2007) Will Smith. (CC)		
	294	650	47 TBS	(:15) American Wedding ★★ (2003, Comedy) Jason Biggs.				(:15) Secondhand Lions ★★★ (2003) Michael Caine, Robert Duvall. (CC)				
	603	561	69 FN	Top Chef Masters (CC)		Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Chopped (CC)		Top Chef
	-	-	55 AMC	True Lies ★★★ (1994, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis. (CC)						Silverado ★★★ (1985) Kevin Kline. (CC)		
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:00) Eagle Eye ★★ (2008)		The Hurt Locker ★★★ (2008) Jeremy Renner. Premiere.				(:15) The Tournament (2009) Robert Carlyle.		
	581	566	101 MTV	MTV Live	Movie Night	After	1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Movie Night	1 girl 5 gays	Sex News	After

SUNDAY 5/16/10

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	To Be Announced		Victor: The Victor Davis Story (2008) Mark Lutz. (CC) (DVS)				CBC News: The National		News
	250	321	9 CTV	Law & Order A man's double life is revealed. (N) (CC)				Desperate Housewives		(:01) Flashpoint "Scorpio"		CTV News
	252	336	11 GTV	Simpsons	Family Guy	Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains (Season Finale) (N) (CC)				Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		News Final
	256	389	12 VI	TMZ (N) (CC)		Gossip Girl (CC)		Monk (N) (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		New Canoe
	253	359	13 CITY	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Murdoch Mysteries		Survivorman (CC) (DVS)		Crusoe
	-	-	14 CW	Boston Legal (CC)		CSI: Miami "Simple Man"		CSI: NY (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (N) (CC)		Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains (Season Finale) (N) (CC)				Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	The 2010 Miss USA Pageant Contestants vie for the crown.				The Celebrity Apprentice The two finalist are determined.				KING 5 News
	288	380	24 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		(:01) Brothers & Sisters		News
	290	382	23 FOX	'Til Death (N)	Simpsons	Simpsons	Cleveland	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	News	Sports	House "Kids"
news	502	390	23 NW	Volcano That Stopped		Amazing Moments		CBC News: The National		Volcano That Stopped		Amazing
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Cooper 360
family sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Motoring	Motorcycle	Planet Speed	Score Golf Television (CC)		SportsCentre
	552	543	25 YTV	(6:00) The Princess Bride ★★★ (1987)			Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This	Zixx Level	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Spliced	Total Drama	Stoked	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	Chicken	Futurama	Tripping-Rift
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Alexander the Great		The Royal "Pastures New"		Cracker (N) (CC)		The Whistleblowers (CC)		Get Up Stand
	575	583	20 CMT	Meet-Wilsons	Meet-Wilsons	Jim Cuddy		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Funniest Home Videos		Hope & Faith
	615	520	31 A&E	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		(:01) Dog the Bounty Hunter		(:01) Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog
	521	560	34 TLC	My Baby Made Me Crazy		Paralyzed and Pregnant		Pregnant at 70 (CC)		My Baby Made Me Crazy		Paralyzed
	616	522	39 SHO	Pure Pwnage	Trailer Park	Tell Me No Lies (2007) Kelly Rutherford, Kirsten Prout. (CC)				The Other Boleyn Girl ★★ (2008) (CC)		
	294	650	47 TBS	Dumb & Dumber ★★ (1994) Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels. (CC)				Delta Farce ★ (2007) Larry the Cable Guy, Bill Engvall.				Galaxy Quest
	603	561	69 FN	Dinner: Impossible (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner
	-	-	55 AMC	Breaking Bad "Kafkaesque"		(:02) Breaking Bad (CC)		(:03) Mad Men (CC)		(:02) Breaking Bad (CC)		(:03) Brubaker
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:00) Revolutionary Road		Four Christmases ★★ (2008) (CC)			(:45) What Doesn't Kill You ★★★ (2008) Mark Ruffalo.			
	581	566	101 MTV	The Challenge		1 girl 5 gays	MTV Live	Nitro Circus	Ult. Parkour	The Challenge		1 girl 5 gays

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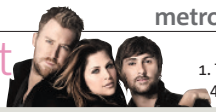

Top albums on the Billboard 200
1. The Oracle, Godsmack; 2. Need You Now, Lady Antebellum, left; 3. The Generous Mr. Lovewell, MercyMe; 4. Live At The Troubadour, Carole King & James Taylor; 5. My World 2.0, Justin Bieber. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

The sacred and the profane

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Brian Borcherdt is relieved. His band's new album is finally on the streets. "It's like an annoying little brat of a child leaving for college," he says, joking about Latin, Holy F—k's latest effort.

The last time the Toronto-based electonica band released any new music was 2007. Since then, the group has gone from relatively obscurity to globe-trotting touring act.

"The last disc was a slow burning record," says Borcherdt. "We toured it for the last four years."

But, being in a band like Holy F—k, which started as an improvisational live act, doesn't mean they have to stick to a formula every night. With their various keyboards, pedals and noise machines, they can crank out any sounds they want.

"We're always playing new material and mixing it with old material. Even those songs have changed so much that we forget they're old." Brian Borcherdt

"We don't feel like we have to play a certain record," he says. "We're always playing new material and mixing it with old material. Even those songs have changed so much that we forget they're old."

While the band still improvises on stage, their albums, which were previously written on the fly, are now fully formed tunes.

"This record has more thought out ideas than anything in the past," says Borcherdt. "We write things, craft them on stage and then bring them into the studio."

While the new disc still has plenty of frenetic noise, clubby beats and discordant, drone-y electronica, it's also softer and more atmospheric than previous discs. Some may miss the wild pace of their old songs, but this is clearly an album by a band. The songs are focused and clear — you can actually hear Latin America's groovy rhythm track and spacey keyboard sounds, while the catchy SHT MTN sounds like a more traditional electro-pop rocker.

That tighter sound is a product of a once loose lineup of players becoming an actual touring, money-making act. At one point they just played with whoever was around, but as more cities came calling, the group was forced to solidify their players and become an actual band.

"When we started we wanted to share this band with anyone who was willing to play," he says. "Any of our friends could join us. But then we became more about making records and touring and you can imagine that it's easier to do with an actual band than an imaginary one."

But being a band isn't enough. It helps to know what you're doing. "We've gotten better at this," says Borcherdt, who, like the rest of the group, got his start playing in rock bands. "When we started we didn't know anything. It was more about plugging this thing and seeing how it feeds back. Now I know what's going to happen when we do something to a mixer."

Latin is the latest album from Holy F—k. The Toronto electronic band's last album, LP, was nominated for the 2008 Polaris Music Prize.

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Street dates and the story behind '180 gram vinyl'

SoundCheck

Alan Cross
metronews.ca/soundcheck

"It's common for a North American artist to see their record on sale in the U.K. a full 24 hours before it appears in stores at home. And with file-sharing, you know what that means."

After 100 Metro columns, perhaps it's time to answer some reader email:

Q **Why is new music always released on Tuesday?**
— Ian, Vancouver.

A Before the 1980s, a new album could end up in the stores on any day of the official week of release. Exactly what day it appeared on the shelves depended on when a particular store go its shipment from the record label. This, however, made keeping track of sales very difficult and inefficient. It was also unfair to stores and fans outside of large urban centres — those places far away from the warehouses, where you might wait a week or more for the shipment of that album to arrive.

Eventually, the labels got together and agreed that the supply chain would be coordinated so that all new releases appeared in stores simultaneously on the same day of the week. Tuesdays are now known as the "street date."

Things are slightly different in the U.K. where the street date is Monday. Before the Internet, this wasn't so much of an issue. Now, however, it's common for a North American artist to see their record on sale in the U.K. a full 24 hours before it appears in stores at home. And with file-sharing, you know what that means.

Q **What is this "180 gram vinyl" I keep hearing about?**
— Sadie, Toronto.

A This is a good question for people who have rediscovered vinyl. Normal records are pressed from polyvinyl chloride that, when spread out to album thickness, weighs anywhere from 100 to 120 grams. Audiophile grade 180 gram vinyl weighs—you guessed it—180 grams per square yard. This makes the records thicker and heavier and less prone to warping so that the tone arm tracking is more true, resulting in (theoretically) better sound.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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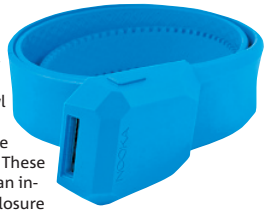
Murphy boycotts Newsweek

Glee creator Ryan Murphy has issued an open letter, urging people to boycott Newsweek until it apologizes for a now-notorious article about gay actors playing straight roles. EW.COM

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Nooka belts



STYLE The company may be well known for its vinyl skins for laptops and music players, but Nooka has come up with a line of strip belts. These colourful creations feature an innovative snap and release closure system, allowing each wearer to adjust it to their exact waist size. nooka.com.

2 Going Gaga

INTERNET It seems Lady Gaga's music is good for any occasion — just take a look at You Tube. Among the best are a sixth grader singing Paparazzi to a gaggle of girls at a school concert, and a flash mob in San Francisco that re-interpreted Bad Romance to urge people to boycott hotels where workers are fighting to win a new contract and health care.

3 Finger in the Nose

FASHION Just because your kid is tot-sized doesn't mean he or she isn't a fashionista at heart. This French clothing line will give any kid attitude with clothes mom or dad would want to borrow. The company's e-store is still under construction, but does provide information on how to purchase its rock 'n' roll-inspired items. fingerinthenose.com

4 True Blood bling

ACCESSORIES The Simmons Jewelry Co. is celebrating the return of vampire-based romance and intrigue with a collection of silver trinkets inspired by True Blood. The collection includes the obligatory crosses, but also star- and skull-shaped charms, bracelets and rings. True Blood season three returns June 13. kay.com

5 Star Wars Tom Tom

GADGETS Next time you are lost in traffic, or just trying to find your way to the nearest comic book store, your guide could be Darth Vader. The Star Wars character's voice is now being used by Tom Tom in its navigation system. Not sure about turning to the Dark Side? The company plans to introduce a Yoda voice in July, Han Solo in August, and C-3PO later on. starwars.tomtom.com

6 Invictus

DVD One team, one country, and now on DVD. Clint Eastwood's latest film chronicles the true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa's rugby team to help unite the country. Invictus hits stores on Tuesday.

7 Come Dine With Me

TV The hit British TV show — which airs on W Network — is getting the Canuck treatment. It was announced this week that a Canadian version of the show will begin shooting in Toronto later this year.

Mix of Six

Stars on Ice

When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: GM Place

Figure-skating tour featuring four-time world champion and national champion Kurt Browning, as well as local skaters and medalists from the 2010 World Figure Skating Championships. Tix: $37.25–$152. Info: starsonice.ca or 604-899-7400.

Animal Grossology

When: Starting Saturday
Where: Metropolis at Metrotown, Grand and Atrium Courts

Free imaginative and educational exhibit set in a virtual 3D animal world, featuring interactive learning games about the slimiest and stinkiest animals. The event runs until Aug. 22. Tix: . Info: metropolisatmetrotown.org.

I Can't Believe It's Not Butter Chicken!

When: Friday & Saturday
Where: CBC Studio 700, 700 Hamilton Street

A live sketch comedy presented by Bollywood Shenanigans and South Asian Arts, described as a mix between SNL, In Living Color and Bollywood. Tix: $15 in advance, and $20 at the door. Info: bollywoodshenanigans.com.

The Beach Boys

When: Saturday & Sunday, 8 p.m.
Where: River Rock Show Theatre, Richmond

Iconic California surf rockers, The Beach Boys, are playing back-to-back shows in Richmond, three dates into their four-month world tour. Tix: $85 – $100. Info: ticketmaster.ca.

Our Lady Peace

When: Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.
Where: The Vogue Theatre

Canadian alternative rock band Our Lady Peace, led by front man Raine Maida, will be at the Vogue Theatre promoting their seventh album, Burn Burn. Album eight is due out later this year. Tix: $47–$61. Info: ticketmaster.ca.

Olympic Village Grand Opening

When: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Millenium water, Manitoba Street and West 1st Avenue

Grand opening celebration of Millennium Water, home of the Olympic and Paralympic Village, featuring live music, activities, a display of 2010 Olympic and Paralympic medals and more than 35 Olympians. Info: millenniumwater.com/avenues.

Hudson is new Almay face
Kate Hudson has reached ultimate Hollywood Golden Girl status. Revlon Inc. named the fun-loving actress Almay's new Global Brand Ambassador. She will appear in television, print and internet ads later this year. **PEOPLE.COM**

The girls are baaaaaack!

SATC 2 is bringing over-the-top glamour into the spotlight. Here's how to get in the spirit.

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News

Sure, you may have replaced your Manolos with a pair of studded brogues.

And yes, you might be wearing more beige than red. Never mind that fashion is moving steadfastly towards a place of minimalism and restraint, Sex and the City 2 is about to squash all of those gushing fashion blog posts you've read about streamlined, tailored camel coats.

Carrie, Samantha, Charlotte and Miranda are back in all of their shiny, jewel-toned, turban-wearing glory.

So before the sequel to every city girl's favorite movie hits theatres, follow these steps to get yourself back into SATC mode.

The Sex and the City 2 movie hits theatres May 27. Gear up for the fashion-forward film by indulging in the purchase of some key glamour pieces.

1 PILE ON THE ETHNIC JEWELRY

The more gilded and colorful your necklace, bracelet and earrings, the better. Think glamour and far-away exotic locations. Fallon bib necklace, $310, hopbop.com

2 LOVE THE STATEMENT SHOE

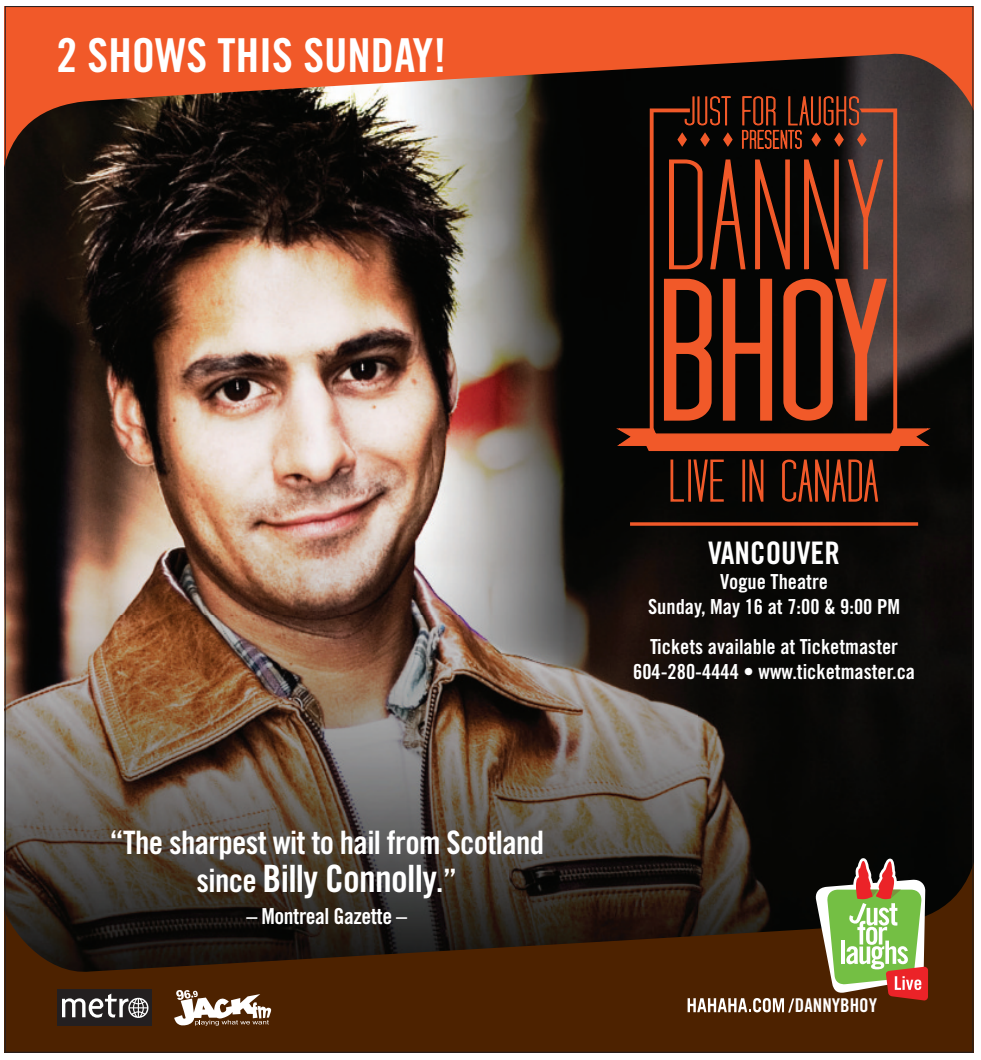
Shove the flats to the back of your closet. And get your feet used to wearing tall heels again. Ignore the pain. If Charlotte can walk through the hot desert sands in stilettos, surely you can make it down the pavement. ASOS platform sandals, $135, asos.com.

3 COVER YOURSELF IN SEQUINS

Carrie and gang are perennial good time girls. And what is a good time without sequins? The shinier the better. H&M Fashion Against AIDS jacket, $50, hm.com

4 RE-EMBRACE THE HAREM PANT

The trendy trouser is about to get a third wind thanks to Samantha who rocks them during the ladies' decadent trip to Dubai. H&M Fashion Against AIDS trousers, $30, hm.com.



Redmond releases

Redmond O'Neal, the 25-year-old son of Ryan O'Neal and late actress Farrah Fawcett, has moved from the Impact Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center in Pasadena, CA., to a sober living environment, femalefirst.co.uk reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Tempers flare in Twilight land

WEIRD BECAUSE SHE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A PLEASANT PERSON TO BE AROUND Looks like there may be trouble in paradise between Twilight co-stars Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart, who reportedly got in a fight during reshoots for the next chapter of the successful franchise.

"Kristen asked for a reshoot because she didn't like her wig in the scene. Robert turned up later on the set," a source says. "When Robert arrived, he and Kristen started fighting. She accused him of taking a later flight from London because he had been hanging out too late at a burlesque bar. She accused him right in front of the director and the crew.

"He didn't take it well. They were both so angry, the crew had to take a break for an hour for things to simmer down."

Reps for Summit Entertainment deny there was any argument.

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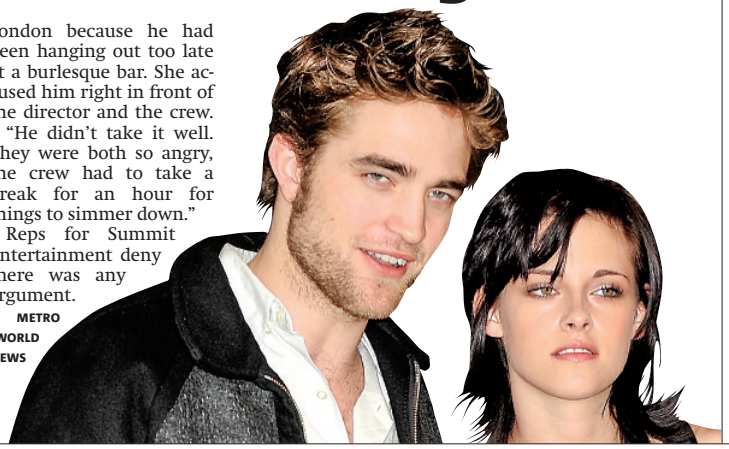

Looking for a free ride

SHE SHOULD TRY USING HER THUMB Lindsay Lohan has reportedly been trying to score a trip to France to drum up investors for her new Linda Lovelace biopic, Inferno, at the Cannes Film Festival. The only problem is no one's willing to foot the bill, according to Page Six. "She's been asking around, but hasn't had any takers," a source says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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CelebTweets

ASHTON KUTCHER is worried about the planet, **SARAH BROWN** wants you to know her husband isn't completely out of a job, **LILY ALLEN** needs restaurant recommendations, and **NEIL PATRICK HARRIS** is looking for a new job.

@aplusk what is going on with all the natural disasters?
@SarahBrownUK Gordon is still happily the MP for Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath (he resigned as party leader not as member of parliament)
@lilyroseallen Where's good to eat on the west side of hamburg?
@ActuallyNPH I love that NPH.com is the Nazarene Publishing House. I wonder if they'd let me hock merchandise.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Creating their own boy band?

KINGSTON'S THE GUITARIST, ZUMA'S ON DRUMS, NOW THEY JUST NEED A VOCALIST Gwen Stefani and Gavin Rossdale are reportedly getting ready to welcome baby No. 3 into their home, sources tell Star magazine.

One source spotted Stefani acting odd recently.

"She was pulling at her shirt to keep it away from her body. It seemed really strange," the source says. "But then, when she turned to the side, I could see why. She definitely had a baby bump."

Another source insists to the magazine that the singer is pregnant — and not having a great time with it.

"Gwen is having a really rough time this pregnancy," the source says. "She had all-day morning sickness for a while with Zuma, but she's sicker this go round and has been feeling exhausted and dizzy."

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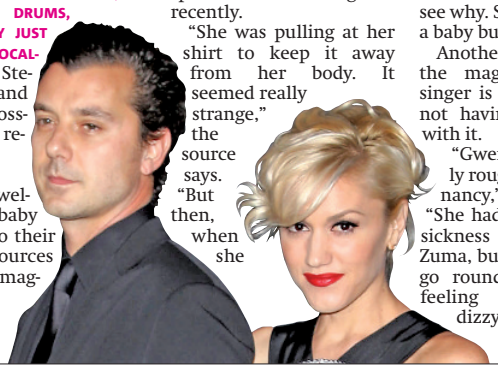


Penn to pay his penance

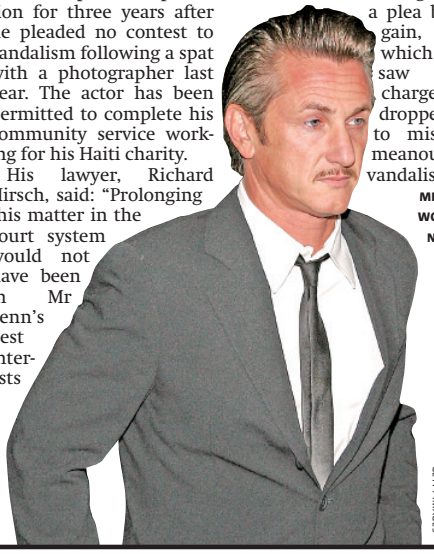
FOR PUSHING OVER A PAPARAZZO Sean Penn has been ordered to undertake anger management counseling, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 49-year-old actor was not in court Wednesday to hear a judge rule he must undergo 36 hours of therapy, perform 300 hours of community service and be placed on probation for three years after he pleaded no contest to vandalism following a spat with a photographer last year. The actor has been permitted to complete his community service working for his Haiti charity.

His lawyer, Richard Hirsch, said: "Prolonging this matter in the court system would not have been in Mr Penn's best interests and would have distracted from his charitable commitments, specifically his work in Haiti. Accordingly he has decided to accept the terms and move on."

The actor had originally been charged with misdemeanour battery and vandalism, which could have led to an 18-month jail term, but agreed a plea bargain, which saw the charges dropped to misdemeanour vandalism.

METRO WORLD NEWS



GETTY IMAGES

Miley shakes her shanks with Shankman

UM, HE'S GAY. AND WHAT WERE KIDS DOING AT A WRAP PARTY ANYWAY? Miley Cyrus is causing an uproar with a leaked video of her giving a provocative lap dance to 45-year-old producer Adam Shankman at the wrap party for The Last Song seven months ago, according to Radar Online.

The video shows Cyrus grinding up against the openly gay Shankman.

"The worst part is that there were little kids at the party and the dancing between Miley and Adam was so dirty that some of the parents actually left the party and took their kids home," a source says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

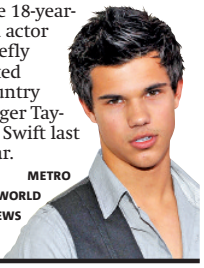
Looking for loyality

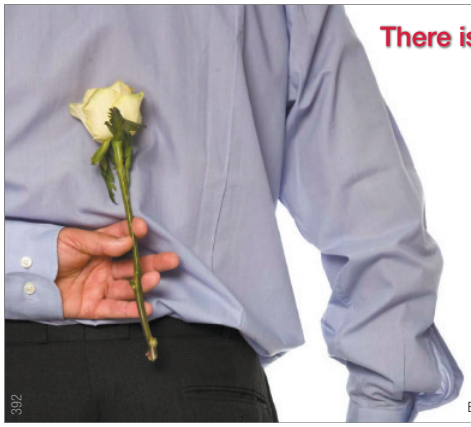
LOYAL LIKE A DOG Twilight star Taylor Lautner knows what he's looking for in a girlfriend — he's just having a hard time finding it.

"Obviously loyalty," Lautner tells Oprah Winfrey when asked what he values in a potential significant other. "And what's really important to me is somebody who can totally let loose and pretty much be themselves and have fun."

The 18-year-old actor briefly dated country singer Taylor Swift last year.

METRO WORLD NEWS





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392

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Today Mainly sunny 18° / 10°
Saturday Partly cloudy 19° / 13°
Sunday Showers 40% 19° / 14°
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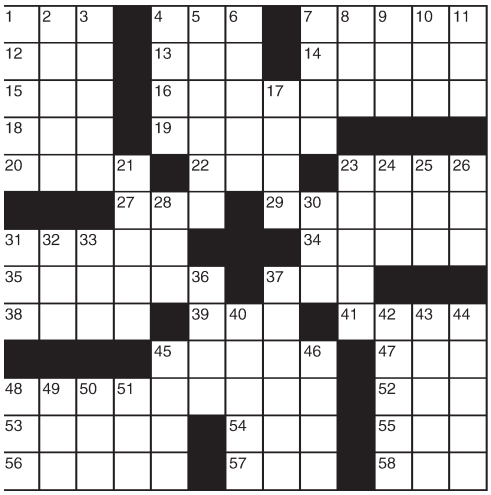
For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**

Take Five



ACROSS

1 Old airline initials
4 Spinning stat
7 Draw a conclusion
12 Disencumber
13 — Baba
14 In grand style
15 Blackbird
16 Marceau's specialty
18 "Rocks"
19 Offspring
20 Therefore
22 Doctrine
23 Constrictors
27 Young fellow
29 Stain fighter
31 Climbing flora
34 Third rock from the sun
35 Strip
37 Toss in
38 Go after
39 Gilligan's house
41 Practice pugilism
45 1945 conference site
47 Whopper
48 Accompaniment to lip-syncing?
52 Navy rank (Abbr.)
53 Hackneyed
54 Edge
55 Afternoon social
56 On mom's side
57 Whatever amount
58 Kreskin's claim

DOWN

1 Characteristic
2 Hoisting mechanism
3 Farewell
4 Seance sounds
5 Tranquil
6 Short skirts
7 Aware of
8 — de plume
9 "Criminal Minds" org.
10 Shade source
11 Deli bread
17 Mummy's locale
21 Streamlined
23 Abacus parts
24 Rowing need
25 Performance
26 "Quiet!"
28 Foolish sort
30 Blazed a trail
31 Check-casher's two, perhaps
32 Compete
33 "— got it!"
36 Asian cuisine
37 Reach
40 Extreme
42 Dish
43 Staffers
44 Alter the chart
45 Christmastime
46 Host
48 Honest politician?
49 Actor McShane
50 Genetic stuff
51 "Roscoe"

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

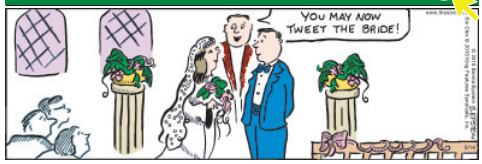
	1		5		9		8	
	8	9				3	2	
3								1
		7	4	9	1	6		
		2	3	8	6	1		
7								8
	5	3				2	9	
	2		1		7		6	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

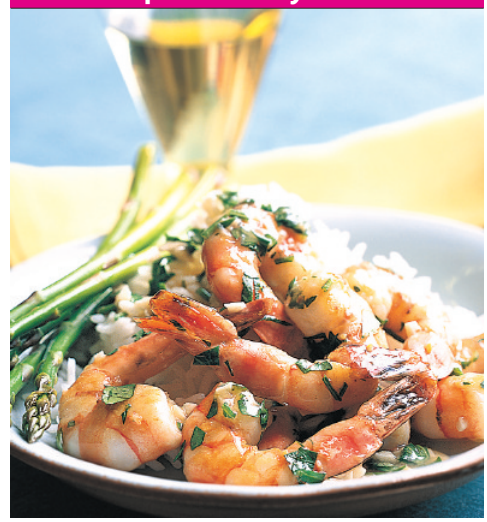
4	3	6	1	2	5	9	8	7
9	8	1	3	7	4	2	5	6
2	5	7	9	8	6	4	1	3
6	1	3	7	5	2	8	4	9
8	7	2	4	9	3	1	6	5
5	4	9	6	1	8	7	3	2
3	6	8	2	4	9	5	7	1
7	2	4	5	6	1	3	9	8
1	9	5	8	3	7	6	2	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Shrimp Scampi

INGREDIENTS:
1 1/2 lbs large shrimp
2 tsp olive oil
3 cloves garlic, minced
2/3 cup bottled clam juice or reduced-sodium, low-fat chicken broth
3 tbsp fresh lemon juice
Salt to taste
1/8 tsp crushed red pepper flakes
1 tsp cornstarch blended with 1 tbsp water
1/4 cup chopped parsley

METHOD:
1. Shell and devein shrimp.

2. Spray large nonstick skillet with nonstick cooking spray. Add oil and heat over medium heat. Add garlic and cook until tender, 2 minutes.

3. Add shrimp and cook, stirring, until almost cooked through, 3 minutes. Add clam juice, lemon juice, salt and red pepper flakes and bring to boil. Cook until shrimp are opaque throughout, about 1 minute.

4. With slotted spoon, transfer shrimp to serving plates. Bring liquid in skillet to boil, stir in cornstarch mixture; cook, stirring, until sauce is lightly thickened, about 1 minute. Stir in parsley and spoon sauce over shrimp.

SERVES 6

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Good news is coming your way and it will affect you where you need it most — in your pocket. Be careful though that you don't spend all your money

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Any day can be a new beginning but with a new moon in your sign this is the best day of all to change your life for the better.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Why are you hiding away where no one can find you? Maybe it's because you are going through one of your occasional bouts of soul searching.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you talk to someone whose ideas you tend not to agree with today you may be surprised to learn that you are not so far apart in your views after all.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You must not give in to pressure today. If you show the slightest hint of weakness you will put yourself at a disadvantage, especially on the work front.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You are thinking of moving on or doing something different with your life. That's great, but have you talked it over with your loved ones? You should.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
However friendly you may be with a certain individual, if they are taking up too much of your time and energy you must cut them adrift.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
It may seem as if you are dancing to someone else's tune but you are not as helpless as you think you are.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you are called upon to make a quick decision then make it and don't look back. It may not be the best decision but if you stand still you'll miss out.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Because today's new moon falls in one of the most dynamic areas of your chart you cannot be forced into doing anything against your will.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Be ready to put other people's needs ahead of your own today, even if it means you run the risk of missing out on something you were looking forward to.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Let friends and relatives know what it is you require of them and they will go out of their way to meet your expectations. That makes a change!

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This day in history

1796: Edward Jenner administers the first smallpox vaccination.
1804: The Lewis and Clark Expedition departs from Camp Dubois and begins its historic journey by traveling up the Missouri River.
1948: Israel is declared to be an independent state. Immediately after the declaration, Israel is attacked by the neighboring Arab states, triggering the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.
1955: Cold War: Eight communist bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, sign a mutual defense treaty called the Warsaw Pact.

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New York	from $298 + taxes & fees $149
Honolulu	from $299 + taxes & fees $132
Los Cabos	from $378 + taxes & fees $136
Tokyo	from $719 + taxes & fees $352
Lima	from $799 + taxes & fees $235
Sydney	from $849 + taxes & fees $287
Auckland	from $1099 + taxes & fees $365
Johannesburg	from $1179 + taxes & fees $451

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Glasgow	from $299 + taxes & fees $476
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Amsterdam & Vienna	from $499 + taxes & fees $404
Vancouver - Amsterdam // Vienna - Vancouver	
Madrid & Rome	from $749 + taxes & fees $380
Vancouver - Madrid // Rome - Vancouver	
Europe	from $1359 + taxes & fees $522
Vancouver – Amsterdam – Paris – Zagreb – Prague – Vancouver	

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Alaska 7-Night Cruise from $499 + taxes & fees $166
CRUISE from Anchorage (Seward) to Vancouver and visit Hubbard Glacier (cruising), Icy Straight Point, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan & cruise the Inside Passage.

Hawai'i 12-Night Cruise from $1199^ + taxes & fees $64^
CRUISE from Vancouver to Honolulu and visit The Big Island (Hilo and Kona), Maui (overnight), Kauai & Oahu (Honolulu).

Scandinavia & Russia
12-Night Cruise from $1629 + taxes & fees $183
CRUISE roundtrip London (Harwich) and visit Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki, St Petersburg (overnight), Tallin & Gothenburg.

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INCLUDES roundtrip air to Glasgow, car rental and 6 nights bed & breakfast accom vouchers to explore England, Scotland and Wales at your own pace.

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Air + 15 Nights + Rail from $1599 + taxes & fees $320
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